



Preserving, maintaining, protecting and enhancing Quissett Harbor

MESSAGE FROM RANDY AND JOHN

Dear Members:

We hope you have had a happy and healthy summer, enjoying the tangible results of your contributions that protect and enhance Quissett Harbor and the Knob. It has been a productive season, and we are grateful for your support in making it so.

You will notice that our opening letter for this issue has two signatures. We are undergoing a transition of our governance. At the June board meeting, John Sigel rejoined the Quissett Harbor Presentation Trust Board of Directors and was voted President. Former President Randy Evans was voted Chair. Our bylaws restrict the President's and Chairman's tenures to one, three-year term each. This strategy, while it places recruiting demands on the board, assures a vibrant, healthy environment where new ideas have the opportunity to be heard; brings in new blood; and strengthens our ability to fulfill our mission.

Additionally, three directors were reelected to second terms: Martha Bennett, Dick Mannix and Mort Saunders. All of us look forward to continuing to work with you, our membership, toward our common goals.

In this newsletter you will read about our summer events, including the Annual Meeting of Members; the Beach Clean-up; and the Wheeler Lecture, featuring Craig Gibson's terrific presentation about Falmouth Birds. The Update on Habitat Conservation & Management section will give you the latest information on the final component of the Knob restoration.

Finally, we would like to say a word about our good friend Joe Martyna, who died on September 20. We are so grateful for Joe's years of service to QHPT, his many contributions to our shared mission and his friendship. We will miss him.

Randy Evans, Chair

John Sigel, President



A glorious fall day on the Knob

ANNUAL MEETING OF MEMBERS BRINGS FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS TOGETHER

Thanks to all who joined us for our Annual Meeting of Members in July at Quissett Harbor House, Willett Hall. We were pleased that so many members came to hear an update on the work to be done on the Northeast Wedge of the Knob and a review of the fundraising totals as well as to welcome John Sigel as President. "The room was packed," John said. "So many people were happy to hear about the progress we've made over the past year and to catch up with friends and neighbors at the reception on the Harbor House lawn following the business meeting."



Annual Meeting reception on the Harbor House Lawn

WELCOME BACK, JOHN SIGEL!

We are delighted to welcome John Sigel back to the QHPT Board of Directors and to congratulate him in his new role as President. John originally joined the board in 2008 and was Secretary from 2011 until he left in 2019 under the term-limit policy. He is now eligible to return and was voted President at the June 2022 board meeting.



John Sigel

During John's prior tenure, the Trust focused on several projects, including interim repairs and improvements to the Knob property, water quality in the Harbor and an oil-spill response plan. "I am excited to be coming back on the board at a time when the QHPT membership and the Quissett community are focused on the preservation of the Harbor and the Knob in the face of climatic challenges," John said.

John and his wife, Sally, own a house on Sippewissett Road, where they enjoy visits from their children and grandchildren. All of them are fond of sailing, swimming and walking the beach at Quissett Harbor.

"I LEFT THE BOARD A NUMBER OF YEARS AGO BECAUSE OF TERM LIMITATIONS. HOWEVER, ONCE I'D BEEN AWAY FOR A FEW YEARS, I WAS ELIGIBLE TO REJOIN. I AM PLEASED TO BE DOING SO DURING THIS EXCITING TIME FOR OUR ORGANIZATION. THE PROJECTS UNDERTAKEN OVER THE PAST SEVERAL YEARS DEMONSTRATE THE COMMITMENT AND IMAGINATION OF OUR BOARD AND OUR MEMBERSHIP."

JOHN SIGEL

FAREWELL TO OUR FRIEND JOE MARTYNA

We are sad to have to say a final farewell to our long-time friend and advisor Joe Martyna. Joe died on September 20 at the age of 92.

Joe served on the QHPT Board of Directors for many years, retiring from that service last spring, age 91. He was also on the boards of Salt Pond Areas Bird Sanctuaries and Quissett Harbor House Land Trust. As such he served as the communication link among all three organizations. "What an incredible life of service and accomplishment," said Randy Evans, Chair of QHPT. "We were so lucky to know him and benefit from his experience; judgment; and friendly, well considered advice. Our sympathies go out to his wife, Connie, and the entire Martyna family."



Joe Martyna

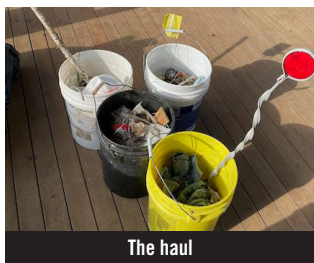
"I HAVE GREAT CONFIDENCE IN JOHN AND AM THRILLED HE HAS AGREED TO RETURN AND TAKE ON THIS LEADERSHIP ROLE. I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO EXPRESS MY GRATITUDE TO THE PEOPLE WHO MADE MY TERM AS PRESIDENT SO REWARDING; TO OUR GENEROUS DONORS, WHO ARE STEWARDS OF THE HARBOR; TO THE SKILLED CONTRACTORS; AND TO THE MEMBERS WHO PARTICIPATE IN OUR PROGRAMS."

RANDY EVANS

BEACH CLEAN-UP BRINGS BOTH IMMEDIATE AND LONG-TERM REWARDS

What could make a sunny, August afternoon at the beach even better? Why, ice cream sundaes made to order, of course! That was part of the reward participants in our annual Harbor and Beach Clean-up earned this year—along with knowing they were helping to fulfill QHPT’s mission of preserving, maintaining, protecting and enhancing Quissett Harbor.

“The clean-up is always a voyage of discovery,” said John Sigel, President of QHPT. The discoveries this year included more dog-poop bags than ever, COVID face masks, a driveway reflector stake, a shoe and five mismatched socks. Strangely enough, that is not an unusual collection! “We are so grateful for the nearly 20 dedicated folks who came out to make the clean-up productive as usual and especially thank all the new people who participated this year,” said Danie Kinkade, Chair of the Harbor and Beach Clean-up Committee.



The haul



Our thanks to a great crew

WHEELER LECTURE REVEALS ROLE OF BIRDS IN CONSERVATION

From a local osprey catching a fish in the Outer Harbor to a long-tail duck cruising the Inner Harbor, the photos of birds found right in our backyard provided the focal point of our 2022 Wheeler Lecture. Craig Gibson presented **Falmouth Birds Through the Seasons**.



Long-tail duck cruising the Inner Harbor

Photo credit: Craig Gibson

Craig is a long-time summer resident and past President of QHPT. He is the author of “A Year of Falmouth Birds,” presented by the 300 Committee Land Trust, and his photos have been published in many newspapers and magazines. His slide show reminded us all of the critical habitat we are preserving for the flora and fauna that flourish here. “It was a delight to share many bird photos from around Quissett Harbor and Woods Hole and great to see so much interest in the beauty and grace of our local birds!” Craig said.

The event, which took place July 17 at the new venue of Woods Hole Room, Parish Community Center, Church of the Messiah, had a strong turnout. “It was such a terrific occasion,” said Laura Morse, Chair of the Wheeler Lecture. “Learning about the wide variety of birds in our habitat and seeing Craig’s beautiful slides made for a very entertaining and informative evening.”

You may view Craig’s lecture slides at <http://qhpt.org/pdf/2022-wheeler-lecture-falmouth-birds.pdf>.

UPDATE ON HABITAT CONSERVATION & MANAGEMENT

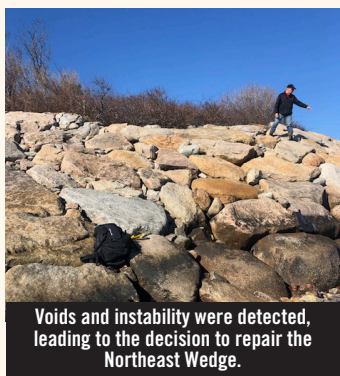
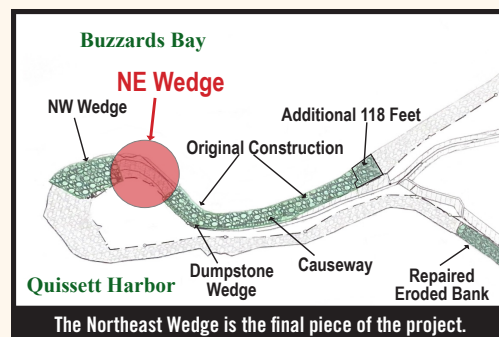
We have completed the major restoration work on the Knob as projected under the 2021 capital campaign plan, **Building Resources for Responsible Stewardship**. The project included:

- Restoring the embankment adjacent to the Outer Harbor stairs;
- Reconstructing the rock armor on the Northwest Wedge, Dumpstone Wedge and the Causeway;
- Restoring the final 118 feet of the rock armor along the Causeway;
- Reinforcing the bottom course of the embankment repair adjacent to the Outer Harbor stairs;
- Grouting the chinking stones on the Knob revetment.

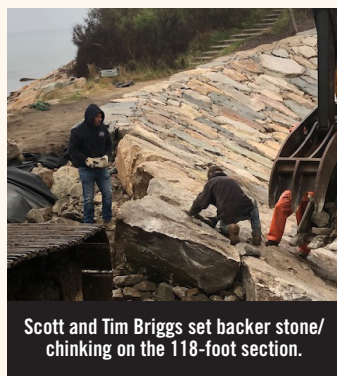
As announced in the spring, our engineers have recommended that, to better protect the north side of the Knob, we should also replace the armor on the Northeast Wedge, a 75–90 foot section of the Knob that can be hit by some of the worst storm waves. The Falmouth Conservation Commission, along with the appropriate federal and state agencies, have approved the amendment to the project with the addition of an eel-grass study. C. F. Briggs Marine Construction will complete that work this fall and early winter.

Replanting and re-grading will take place in order to return the area to its natural state.

Preserving the Northeast Wedge requires raising an additional \$400,000. At the time of publication, \$194,000 has been pledged, of which \$164,000 has been received. “We are so grateful for the generosity of our donors,” said Campaign Chair, Andy Zimmerman. “We hope to see the pledges fulfilled by the end of the tax year.” However that will still leave over \$200,000 needed to complete the project. *If you would like to help close that gap, please call Andy at 617-875-1420.*



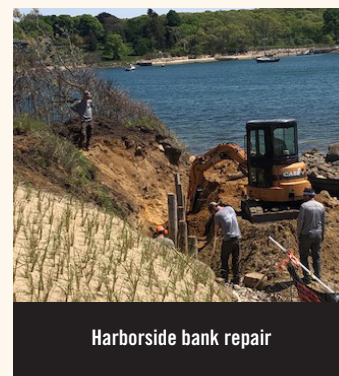
Voids and instability were detected, leading to the decision to repair the Northeast Wedge.



Scott and Tim Briggs set backer stone/ chinking on the 118-foot section.



Repairs were made to the Dumpstone Wedge.



Harborside bank repair