

MESSAGE FROM JOHN AND RANDY

Greetings!

This spring we begin our newsletter with excellent news. Thanks to your generous, unfailing support and the skilled work of Dale and Tim Briggs and the C.F. Briggs Marine Construction team, the Knob armor restoration project is now completed and paid for.

“A roaring, rambunctious high-five for the Quissett community for making it possible to complete almost \$2 million in work over the last three seasons,” says Randy. “It’s an extraordinary achievement for our community.”

In the face of this winter’s freezing temperatures and 30-knot winds, Dale Briggs and his crew of artisans worked tirelessly to install and secure the armor and its underpinnings on the Northeast Wedge — located near the Knob’s end on the Buzzards Bay side. Thus, the last of three phases in this restoration project is now finished.

Nearly 100 families — committed and caring stewards — gave generously so that we could bring this work to a successful close. We hope you have time to view the Briggs family’s expert, artful work, if not now, then at our upcoming Harbor and Beach cleanup on June 24. “It’s a wonder!” says Randy.

We are now engaged in another construction project, though lesser in scope. This project was unanticipated. Because of an “astronomical high tide” and devastating waves coming from the southwest in a storm on December 23 and 24, a section of the outer harbor mid-level embankment protection project completed in 2020-2021 suffered serious erosion. “Without the previous remediation work, the damage could have been far worse,” says John.

To prepare us for the future, and to pay for repair of damages associated with the holiday storm, we will commence a limited fundraising campaign. Enclosed, you’ll find a letter detailing our accomplishments and an assessment of our needs.

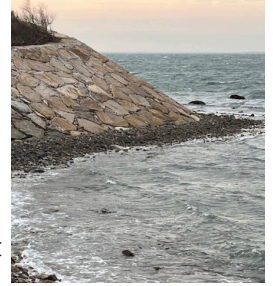
Thank you all for your help and support. With much gratitude, we behold the stunning views of the Knob and its greatly enhanced resilience.

John Sigel, President

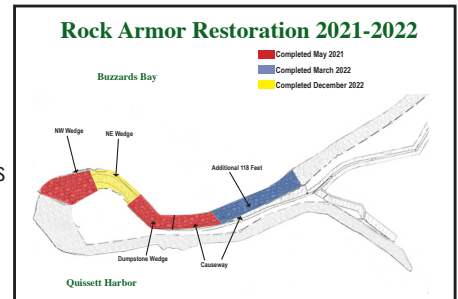
Randy Evans, Chairman

UPDATE ON HABITAT CONSERVATION & MANAGEMENT

In late December, final work on the Knob rock armor was completed. “It is very gratifying that the community stepped up to do this work which is, frankly, of higher quality and more durable than what was there,” says Dana Rodin, who tracked and documented the construction on a nearly daily basis. Dana’s informative, illustrated PowerPoint presentation detailing the work can be viewed on the QHPT website. “We’ve done the best we can under the circumstances for our generation,” he says, citing the advances in engineering and construction.



Dana’s commitment to oversight of the Knob’s rock armor restoration has been of great importance to the success of this work. “Our Quissett community’s contributions funded the preservation of the Knob,” he says, “so that it could continue as a place for passive recreation, as an aesthetic resource, and to ensure navigability of the harbor and protection of shoreside properties.” Below, Dana cites key restoration details:



- **The project began** in 2017 when Foth Engineers conducted a study of the Knob’s condition. The project was deemed necessary to protect the natural landform and navigability of a harbor continually subjected to natural forces of erosion as well as frequent public use.

- **Over three seasons**, beginning in 2020, C.F. Briggs Marine Construction rebuilt the rock armor on the entire north face from the Northwest Wedge to the stone stairs on the Buzzards Bay side.



- **Work in each phase began** with excavation and removal of earlier stonework. The armor was rebuilt over toe stones (foundational stones) in a dredged trench. The toe stones were placed below the water’s surface over a base of geotextile material and backer stone. Finally, large armor pieces weighing 6 to 12 tons each were set in the beautiful mosaic-like arrangements cut to fit tightly.

- **Restoration of the access path has begun** and will continue into the fall. Some beach and native grasses are planted, and the grading of the road for drainage and improved walking surface is underway. The walking surface will narrow to 5–7 feet, and more grasses and woody plants will be added, to return the access path to its earlier woodlands appearance.

THE HOLIDAY STORM

On December 23 and 24, Elliott, a generational storm, bore down with 60 mph southwest winds and higher gusts. The storm, combined with an “astronomical high tide,” caused serious damage to the outer harbor embankment immediately adjacent to the harbor-facing wooden stairs. Dana reported that the lower coir (fiber) roll was almost entirely lost, but, thanks to other protective rolls, more serious damage was averted. Repair work is now being planned, subject to approval by the Conservation Commission.

Replanting the Knob path.



BEACH CLEANUP: A TIME TO GATHER AND EXPLORE SATURDAY, JUNE 24, 9 A.M.

Cleanup of the Quissett Harbor and the Knob beaches is a great time to reunite with the Quissett community and acknowledge our commitment to the environmental stewardship of this cherished space. Clearing out winter's debris allows plenty of opportunity to chat, enjoy and explore the beaches, and get a closer look at the craftsmanship of the newly completed Knob restoration. Bring along hats, gloves, sunscreen, walkable beach shoes and reusable bags for trash collection. We'll have extra buckets and gloves if you need them, along with clipboards and data sheets that



we'll use to track and report our findings. Our work contributes to data on ocean debris across coastal states. Refreshments provided, also. **We'll see you there!**

SAVE THESE DATES!

Saturday, June 24: Harbor and Beach Cleanup, 9 a.m.
Saturday, July 1: Annual Meeting of Members, 5–7:30 p.m.
Sunday, July 16: Wheeler Lecture, 5 p.m.

FINANCES 2022 (January 1–December 31, 2022)

The Knob's restoration costs totaled \$2 million over three seasons. As you'll see in the first section of the Financial Summary for calendar year 2022, our Preservation Trust received more than \$450,000 from pledges made to our capital campaign as well as another \$54,000 in annual dues and interest payments. You'll recall our capital campaign, led by Andy Zimmerman, resulted in \$1.3 million in pledges. We expect to receive the final \$170,000 in pledges over the next two years. These numbers reflect the Quissett community's commitment to its mission to preserve, maintain, protect and enhance Quissett Harbor. The owner of the Knob, Salt Pond Areas Bird Sanctuaries, also contributes half of the annual maintenance expenses as well as a portion of the cost of certain repairs.

In the second section you'll see that last year we paid \$560,000 to our contractors for completing work on the Knob. As noted elsewhere, C.F. Briggs Marine Construction's skilled work has been greeted with great praise from those with expertise in this unique field. Other 2022 Knob-related expenses, including outer harbor erosion control, permitting and ongoing maintenance, totaled \$62,000.

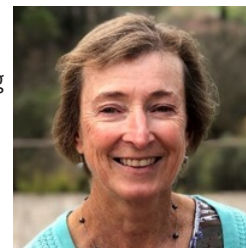
The net of expenses and revenues reduced our assets to \$933,000 as of December 31, 2022.

Briggs completed work in December, 2022. The team cleaned up the site and demobilized from the Knob. We made final payment to Briggs of \$330,000 in January 2023. As of the printing of this newsletter, our assets are \$650,000 reflecting 2023 year-to-date net of income from pledges and final payments to our contractors.

Looking to the next 18 months, we expect to receive pledge donations and annual dues in the range of \$200,000. We plan to spend about \$240,000 to restore recent outer harbor storm damage, and to restore the pathways after three years of construction work. Adding in costs for regular annual

WHEELER LECTURE: LEADING CLIMATE SCIENTIST TO GIVE WHEELER LECTURE ON JULY 16

How is climate change fueling extreme weather? Recent headlines are rife with dire stories of extreme weather events: drought, heatwaves, flooding, hurricanes and even frigid spells. Is climate change contributing to these events? And how are weather whiplash, the polar vortex, heat domes and the jet stream involved? "We are fortunate to have Woodwell Senior Scientist Jennifer Francis as our Wheeler Lecturer this year," says Laura Morse, Lecture chair. "Dr. Francis is heading groundbreaking research on how rapid Arctic warming links to shifting weather patterns in North America and beyond." More information to follow via email.



ANNUAL MEETING OF MEMBERS: Saturday, July 1, 5–7:30 p.m.
Quissett Harbor House, Willett Hall | Reception on the Harbor House Lawn

Join us on **Saturday, July 1**, for our Annual Meeting of Members. We will begin our business meeting at 5 p.m., followed by a reception on the Harbor House Lawn. **Please RSVP by June 28 to Colleen Hurter at cdhurter@gmail.com.**

Remember, It's Time to Pay Your Annual Dues!

Have you renewed your membership for 2023? Go to our website, qhpt.org. You may pay your dues online through PayPal or a credit card. We encourage you to do this before the Annual Members Meeting on July 1. Please look for the enclosed fundraising envelope, as well. Thank you once again for your support.

maintenance on the Knob and operating expenses, we can expect our assets to be in the range of \$500,000 at the end of 2024. This figure is lower than what our Quissett Harbor Preservation Trust needs to continue improving the Knob and holding reserves in case of damage from a future storm. As a result, we are about to launch a limited fundraising campaign to bolster assets and meet the costs of the harbor bank repair.

Assets as of January 1, 2022	\$1,121,884.37
• Capital Campaign Contributions	\$455,947.47
• Annual Dues.....	\$37,700.00
• Dividends and Interest.....	\$16,881.25
• Net of Capital Gains and Unrealized Losses	(- \$59,294.65)
Total Revenues for Calendar Year 2022	\$451,234.07

Expenses

• Knob Project	
* Rock Armor Repair	\$498,367.00
* Outer Harbor Erosion Control	\$34,027.07
* Engineering, Permits, Inspections	\$17,374.64
• Ongoing Knob Maintenance	\$10,135.64
• Communications, Website, Wheeler Lecture	\$9,694.43
• Administrative Expenses.....	\$7,042.77
• Tax Preparation, Audit and Accounting	\$3,448.50
Total Expenses	\$580,090.05
Net Loss (Expenses Exceeded Revenues)	(- \$128,855.98)
Assets as of December 31, 2022	\$933,028.39