

## ANNUAL REPORT 2010-2011

### Message From the President

Welcome to summer at Quissett Harbor! As we look back upon the past year, we are pleased to review the various ways you, our members, have helped to maintain and preserve the natural beauty of this area. Within this report, you will find updates on the projects we have undertaken, sometimes alone and sometimes in partnership with other area organizations.

Additionally, I am pleased to tell you that the kiosk at the trailhead to the Cornelia Carey Sanctuary on the Knob now has a dynamic design, provided by Christine Lemay of Morningstar Design in Falmouth, and even more content. Again, we express our deep appreciation to David Newton and his company, C.H. Newton Builders, who donated the materials and labor to build the kiosk. The kiosk is a collaborative effort among Quissett Harbor Preservation Trust (QHPT), Quissett Harbor House Land Trust, Salt Pond Area Bird Sanctuaries, and C.H. Newton.

If you attended last summer's Wheeler Lecture, you heard Christopher Neill, Senior Scientist of the Marine Biological Laboratories Ecosystems Center, explain the issues regarding nitrogen's impact on Falmouth's coastal-water bodies. Chris' presentation, Falmouth's Wastewater Future: The Science Behind the Arguments, focused on the wastewater treatment options that are being considered for the town of Falmouth. We followed up on Chris' talk by sending a letter to members detailing how to minimize or eliminate the use of lawn fertilizer. Small steps taken by all of us can make a big difference. We also prepared a letter to welcome boaters to the area. It offers a friendly hello while reminding them of a few rules with regard to safety, navigation and public access.

In this report you will find an update on our financial status. We have continued to manage your contributions through a low-risk, liquid-investment strategy. And, of course, we rely primarily on dues to fund everyday expenses.

Finally, I want to thank David Babin, who completed his service as our secretary/clerk this year. We are grateful for David's hard work and pleased he will remain a board member. Current board member John Sigel will take on the secretary/clerk's duties. We look forward to working with John in this new role.

I hope you have a wonderful summer, enjoying the beauty of Quissett Harbor:

Sincerely,

Weatherly Dorris  
President



Weatherly and Rick Dorris

### Wheeler Lecture To Focus on Patient Earth

For our 2011 Wheeler Lecture, Event Chairman Dave Barry has asked Josef Kellndorfer, Ph.D., Senior Scientist at Woods Hole Research Center in Falmouth, to speak on Radiology of Patient Earth with Radar Eyes in the Sky. The lecture will provide an overview of mapping and monitoring Earth from aircraft and satellites with radar-imaging technology and will take place on Tuesday, July 12, from 6:00 to 7:15 p.m. at the National Academy of Sciences.

### Update Habitat Conservation and Management

We continued our annual trail maintenance, seasonal trimming and replanting so necessary to preserving the Knob. In addition, we made progress on two significant projects we hope to complete in the spring of 2012.

#### Eldred Landing

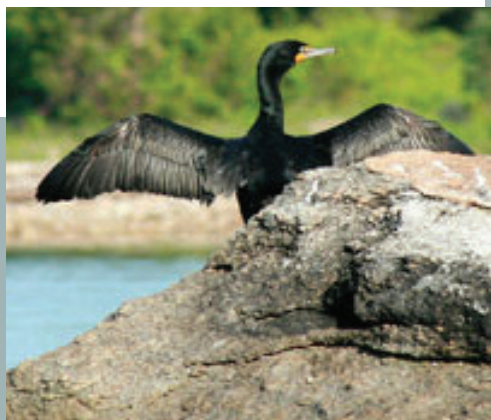
We have moved forward on the project to restore the coastal bank and vegetation at Eldred Landing adjacent to the boatyard. Eldred Landing was named for the Eldred family, one of the original 18 Quissett families as well as first owners of the Quissett Harbor Boatyard, known then as Eldred and Fish. At the request of the Falmouth Conservation Commission, we hired an engineer to complete a plan. We now are waiting for approval from the commission. We hope to begin the project in the spring of 2012.

#### Harbor Parking-Lot Wall

The concrete wall that provides support for the edge of the bank adjacent to the harbor parking lot is in need of repair. We have priced replacing the wall with a stone knee wall and are reaching out to other organizations to share the cost.

### Our Mission

**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. For more information, go to [www.qhpt.org](http://www.qhpt.org).**



# QUISSETT HARBOR PRESERVATION TRUST

## Meet President Weatherly Dorris

When you're named for a sailboat, a life near the sea is pretty much pre-ordained. Weatherly Dorris, named for the 1962 winner of the America's Cup, is living such a life. Now in her second year as president of the Quissett Harbor Preservation Trust, Weatherly approaches her job from the perspective of someone committed to preserving the beauty of the area.

"My dad is a long-time sailor," she said, "and I was born during race week—which explains my name." Weatherly, her brother and sister, grew up in Quissett and Falmouth. She and her husband, Rick, have raised their two daughters, now ages 20 and 22, here as well.

Weatherly's respect for preservation can be seen in the way she and Rick run the family business, the Quissett Harbor Boatyard (QBY). Her father purchased the boatyard in the 1950s. He remains president, but Weatherly and Rick have managed the operation since 1985. Unlike modern boatyards, QBY relies on gravity, tide and a dose of "Egyptian technology." Every boat is moved with pry bars, wooden rollers and a marine railway. "Thankfully, most of the boats we handle are small and our customers supremely patient," Weatherly said.

A member of the board since the group's founding in 2001, Weatherly was the organization's first secretary. "What I enjoy most about QHPT is working with like-minded people who are committed to preserving this beautiful resource," she said. "The collective wisdom and enthusiasm of our Board is truly exceptional. I learn from them every day. As chairman, Chip Morse in particular provides a steady hand of leadership. He keeps us organized and focused on building upon our strong foundation. He is the busiest retiree I know! My predecessor as president, Craig Gibson, established many of the programs we are continuing to grow today. Of course, our membership is wonderful too. This harbor is special to so many. It's an honor to help preserve it."

*"We are working on broadening our educational efforts and reaching out to a multi-generational audience."*

Kate Davis

## Financial Update

(June 1, 2010 through May 31, 2011)

We have continued our financial strategy of low-risk, liquid investments. This strategy not only protects our members' contributions but also provides a reserve fund. As interest rates are low, we rely primarily on dues to fund everyday expenses.

The following are preliminary financial figures for the period June 1, 2010, through May 31, 2011.

**Income:** We began the fiscal year with assets of \$494,492. New contributions totaled \$79,580. Joan Wheeler, wife of our founder, Henry Wheeler, generously donated \$50,000 to QHPT the week before her death in August 2010. We received 11 contributions totaling \$1,100 through our newly established PayPal program. Other income, primarily interest and dividends, totaled \$1,019, bringing total income to \$80,599.

**Expenses:** Expenses totaled \$24,728. Expenses included \$9,294 for Landscaping; \$12,299 for Administration and Communications; and \$3,135 for the Annual Meeting. A generous grant of \$3,000 from a director again funded food and drink for the Annual Meeting so that member funds need not be used for this purpose.

**Assets:** We ended the year with assets of \$550,364.



## QHPT's First Harbor Clean-up Took Place in June

On Saturday, June 25, at 9:00 a.m., volunteers gathered at the entrance to the Knob for the first QHPT-organized harbor and beach clean-up. After light refreshments, the volunteers helped clean the beaches and pathways of the Knob, the northeast shoreline of the harbor and the supporting public-parking areas. As the clean-up was part of QHPT's educational mission, the organization took notes on the debris the volunteers collected to see what can be learned.

## Kate Davis Heads Up Education Program

Central to QHPT's mission is education, and in 2010, board member Kate Davis took on the challenge of enhancing our work in this area. "We already have so many wonderful educational programs in place," Kate said. "Now we are working on broadening our educational efforts and reaching out to a multi-generational audience."

According to Kate, the harbor beach clean-up was part of that strategy, encouraging children, parents and grandparents to participate. But she also is looking at programs targeted directly to young people. "We want to make kids aware that the coastal area is more than a place for them to swim and sail. It is an ecosystem that they need to take care of." Kate is looking to provide printed materials to youth organizations about the environment, including the native plants and wildlife in the area, as well as the importance of picking up trash and cleaning up after dogs.



## Finances 2010–2011

**Assets as of June 1, 2010:** \$494,493

**Income:** \$80,599

**Expenses:** \$24,728

- Landscaping: \$9,294
- Administration and Communications: \$12,299
- Annual Meeting: \$3,135

**Assets as of May 31, 2011:** \$550,364

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