

## ANNUAL REPORT 2011–2012

### Message From the President

Welcome to summer! It's 2012, and once again it is our pleasure to report to you on the activities of the Quissett Harbor Preservation Trust for the past year. The following report covers QHPT's major activities in the categories of Habitat Conservation and Management, Education and Finance.

Thanks to the leadership of Dana Rodin, we've completed the Eldred Landing project and made significant progress on the Middle Parking Lot project. Dana has also seen to it that the ongoing maintenance of the Knob has stayed on track.

Our education mission continues to be a major focus. The 2011–2012 projects included the Wheeler Lecture, Harbor and Beach Clean-up, and a presentation by Craig Gibson on local birds. Our thanks go out to Kate Davis and Dave Barry for their work on these events.

As this is our annual report, we've included a summary of the financial activities for 2011–2012. We reported to you earlier in the year that we had adjusted our investment strategy in order to grow our resources. We are still conservative, but we are proactively seeking a better return on investment than is possible with a savings account. Paul Hogan has done a tremendous job managing this. His financial expertise and business acumen are a great asset. Since so much of what Paul does takes place behind the scenes, we thought it would be a good idea to provide a profile of him. You'll find that in this report as well.

A significant accomplishment this year was the finalization of our Oil Spill Response strategy. Taking into account the factors of safety, effectiveness, cost and availability of other resources, we determined we would not purchase our own booms. (See Quissett Harbor Newsletter—December 2011 for an in-depth discussion of the issues.) Our strategy is to maintain an Oil Spill Response Plan, with the assistance of the Buzzards Bay Coalition. (Available online at the Department of Environmental Protection website: (<http://www.mass.gov/dep/cleanup/os/Pages/grp.html>, listed as a Geographic Response Plan.) We will continue to educate ourselves, run response drills, and provide oil-spill kits designed to help contain small spills. We'll keep you posted on these activities in the coming year.

I hope you and your families have a wonderful summer and you enjoy everything Quissett Harbor has to offer.

Sincerely,

Weatherly Dorris



Rick and Weatherly Dorris

### Habitat Conservation and Management

In 2011, we went through the permitting process with the Falmouth Conservation Commission in order to undertake two significant projects: restoring the coastal bank adjacent to Eldred Landing and repairing the Middle Parking Lot on Quissett Harbor Road. The Quissett Association is providing a portion of the costs associated with both projects.

- We have completed the **Eldred Landing project**, which included removing dead trees and brush, repairing the banks, creating a terracing retention structure and planting bayberry. We extended the project to other parts of the bank and cleared invasive vines. We may add one or two trees in the future.
- The **Middle Parking Lot** wall is under construction. The wet weather delayed our start, but the project is moving forward. It involves custom fitting large granite stone pieces to create a wall that has a simple historic look. When completed, this will be a nice addition to the setting of the harbor.
- Our 2011 **Knob maintenance** included:
  - \* Removing invasive vines and debris from winter storms;
  - \* Planting beach grass;
  - \* Renewing the wire fencing on the narrow causeway of the Knob;
  - \* Replacing an armor stone that had become loose;
  - \* Reinking armor stones (maintaining the filler between the stones);
  - \* Installing a natural rope railing on the stairway that leads from Buzzards Bay Beach to the causeway.



New wall in progress.



Piping Plover.

### 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 minimize threats to the overall health of the area. *For more information, go to [www.qhpt.org](http://www.qhpt.org).*

• **Annual Meeting of Members: June 30, 6:00–8:00 p.m.**  
Inside the Harbor House.

### 2012 Schedule of Events

• **Wheeler Lecture: July 24, 6:00 p.m.**  
National Academy Jonsson Center.

• **Bird Talk: August 16, 6:00 p.m.**  
Inside the Harbor House.

# QUISSETT HARBOR PRESERVATION TRUST

## Educational Programs

- We continued our expanded educational outreach efforts with former QHPT President **Craig Gibson's Presentation on Local Birds**. Using his own photographs to illustrate, Craig described how to identify various species, their habitat and behaviors. "There are many ways to identify one species from another," Craig said. "The size; shape; color; as well as various unique field marks, such as wing bars or eye rings; regular habitat; how a bird forages for food; and even specialized flight patterns are all clues."

Craig will be giving another presentation on August 16. "A birding program like this helps increase awareness of the bird life and nature that surrounds us in the extended Quissett area," he said. Craig's photos appear in the book **A Year of Falmouth Birds**, created by The 300 Committee Land Trust. For more information about the book, visit <http://www.blurb.com/bookstore/detail/2934533>. For more information about Craig Gibson, visit [birdsoftheair.com](http://birdsoftheair.com).

- In June of 2011, we held our first annual **Harbor and Beach Clean-up**, organized as part of the Education Program. The clean-up is part of QHPT's educational mission. "We had people of all ages participating," said Kate Davis, chairperson of the Education Program. "It's a great way for people to connect to the environment and for parents to impress upon children the importance of preserving the Quissett Harbor area." The second annual Harbor Clean-up took place Saturday, June 23.
- Our 2011 **Wheeler Lecture**, Radiology of Patient Earth with Radar Eyes in the Sky, presented by Josef Kellndorfer, Ph.D., senior scientist at Woods Hole Research Center in Falmouth, was a great success. The 2012 lecture will be presented by Christopher M. Reddy, senior scientist at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute. The topic will be "Oil Spill Crises: Scientists Leave the Ivory Tower." The lecture will take place at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 24, at the J. Erik Jonsson Woods Hole Center of the National Academy of Sciences.

## Financial Update

*(June 1, 2011 through May 31, 2012)*

Following the Board of Directors November 2011 vote, we adjusted our investment strategy, putting 60 percent of resources into stocks and bonds via bond and stock mutual funds and retaining 40 percent in savings. The investment strategy is being monitored by the board-appointed investment committee, consisting of Paul Hogan, Dick DeWolfe and Dave Barry, all of whom have significant experience in the financial industry. We also added PayPal as an option for our donors to make contributions. The following are preliminary financial figures for the period June 1, 2011, through May 31, 2012.

**Income:** We began the fiscal year with assets of \$550,364. New contributions totaled \$30,850. We received a total of \$1,450 in contributions through PayPal last fiscal year. Other income, primarily from investments, totaled \$9,525, bringing total income to \$40,375. Investment income includes \$4,359 in unrealized gains, which are reflected on the balance sheet.

**Expenses:** Expenses totaled \$31,499. They included \$18,650 for Program Expenses (including Knob restoration); \$5,380 for Communication; \$3,292 for the Annual Meeting; and \$4,177 for Administration. 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 \$559,241.

## Meet Paul Hogan, QHPT Treasurer

From his home on Racing Beach Avenue, Paul Hogan can see the end of Quissett Harbor. A favorite morning walk takes him around Racing Beach, out to the Knob and back. Paul is a summer resident who lives in Milton in the winter. He and his family have been coming to Falmouth since 1978. "I'm concerned about preserving the character of the local environment," Paul said. "So when I was asked to serve on the Board of Directors as the organization's treasurer, I thought it was a way for me to contribute."

Paul has been treasurer since 2008 and has brought a wealth of knowledge and experience to the job. Retired from the banking industry, he had a 30-year career that included serving as chief risk officer of Fleet Bank and vice chairman of Bank of Boston. As treasurer of QHPT, he works with the organization's bookkeeper, Kathy Shaw, to insure that the financial accounts are accurate and up-to-date and that critical reporting to the Internal Revenue Service and the Attorney General takes place.

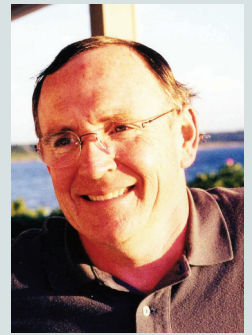
"Paul has done so much for QHPT," said Weatherly Dorris, president. "His financial expertise is invaluable, and, because he worked with small and large businesses in his banking career, he also knows a lot about project management."

Paul's project-management experience was particularly valuable when it came to finalizing QHPT's Oil Spill Response Strategy. "Paul played a key role in making sure we have a response plan that is both cost effective and appropriate to QHPT's needs," said Chip Morse, QHPT chairman.

This past year, Paul recommended to the Board of Directors that it was time for the organization to have a less conservative and more proactive investment policy. "Our large capital project had been completed," he said. "If we were going to preserve the long-term value of our investment portfolio for future needs, we had to have a longer view. We've been slowly investing in stocks and bonds and will continue to look at investing a larger portion of the portfolio as we go forward."

According to Paul, one of the factors that keeps QHPT running so efficiently is the commitment of the volunteer board. "If it weren't for the significant contribution of our directors' time and efforts, expenses would be considerably higher," he said.

On a personal note, Paul enjoys spending time in Falmouth with his wife, Patricia, and their grown children's families.



## Finances 2011-2012

**Assets as of June 1, 2011:** **\$550,364**

**Income:** **\$40,375**

**Expenses:** **\$31,499**

- Program Expense (including Knob restoration): **\$18,650**
- Communications: **\$5,380**
- Annual Meeting: **\$3,292**
- Administration: **\$4,177**

**Assets as of May 31, 2012:** **\$559,241**

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