



UPDATE ON HABITAT CONSERVATION & MANAGEMENT

While we have made good progress in recent years, the challenges of erosion, heavy use and weather persist and intensify periodically. Work we have done over the fall of 2019 and spring 2020 includes:

- **Erosion and Trail Maintenance:** We have continued to work with Salt Pond to respond to erosion on both sides of the Knob property and to maintain existing trails.
- **Plantings and Fencing:** In fall 2019, we continued planting on the harborside ravines and adding cedar fencing at strategic locations on bluffs beside the trails. We will relocate fencing as necessary on eroded banks. We are also planning a major bank-protection effort, using geotextile bags on a length of badly eroded bluff adjacent to the harborside wooden stairs and stone revetment. Early spring beach-grass replanting continues to be on the annual work list.
- **Storm Damage:** This past year we have had three major storms. Consequently, erosion-mitigation efforts will need to continue. The storms have also brought with them considerable tree damage. We are limbing large boughs and tree tops to improve appearances near the trails, while leaving the cut remains of blow-downs as habitat.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Members:

Of all the President and Chairman letters that have come to you via this newsletter, none has been offered under such difficult and unusual circumstances. At the time of publication, much of the country is still under lockdown in an effort to slow the coronavirus. However, getting outdoors and exercising can still be part of our lives, provided we do so responsibly. The Knob is available to walk. We ask that you respect both the directives of our Salt Pond Areas Bird Sanctuaries partners and the safety of others by adhering to the social-distancing guidelines posted at the entrance.

While our immediate activities are limited, our vision for the Knob and Quissett Harbor is not. That vision includes repairing the rock armor, fixing the harborside erosion, removing invasive plants, working with our Salt Pond partners to improve the trails and vistas on the Knob as well as safety and signage, achieving the cleanest harbor water quality in all of Buzzards Bay watershed and working with the Town Of Falmouth on engineering and construction on Quissett Harbor Road and the seawall around the Inner Harbor to deal with increasing water levels.

Our immediate priority is to repair the rock armor. I am pleased to tell you that we now have all the permits required. In April the Falmouth Conservation Commission approved our work plan for repairing the Knob.

The cost we have been quoted at this time to make the repairs has come in above our budget. We are optimistic as we work with our engineers, Foth Infrastructure & Environment, LLC, that we will find ways to reduce the cost without compromising the effectiveness of the repairs. We will keep you updated.

As always, we plan a season filled with events and opportunities to learn more about the Knob and the work we do as a community to preserve it. Of course, we will follow the guidance and directives from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and Massachusetts Department of Public Health regarding group gatherings at the time of the events.

Finally I would like to welcome our new board member, Lisa Bernstein, who was voted in at the spring board meeting. And I want to thank Todd Bourell, Chair of the Investment Committee, who is stepping down from the board. Todd has done tremendous work in growing our endowment and protecting the Funds we've raised to repair the rock armor. And while the market is experiencing a downturn at the moment because of the coronavirus, the position of strength Todd helped us create will serve us well when the market rebounds.

On behalf of the board, I wish you the very best. Stay safe as you enjoy the Harbor and the Knob. Sincerely,

Randy Evans, President

REMEMBER, IT'S TIME TO RENEW YOUR DUES!

Have you remembered to renew your dues for 2020? Go to our website, qhpt.org. You may pay online through PayPal or a credit card.

NEW MEMBER CAMPAIGN LAUNCHED

In our fall newsletter, we told you about the New Member Campaign we are launching this spring. Chaired by Board Member Putney Cloos, this campaign focuses on expanding our membership group and bringing in a new generation of members. Our first communication is going out to a list of people we believe will be interested,

inviting them to attend the Beach Cleanup and Annual Meeting. 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.*

QUISSETT HARBOR PRESERVATION TRUST

WHEELER LECTURE EXPLORES A RIVER-CENTRIC VIEW OF OUR CHANGING PLANET

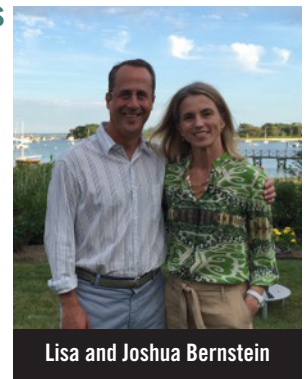
This year's Wheeler Lecture presenter will be Robert Max Holmes. Ph.D, Deputy Director and Senior Scientist at Woods Hole Research Center. Dr. Holmes is an earth-system scientist who studies rivers and their watersheds and how climate change and other disturbances are impacting the cycles of water and chemicals in the environment. His topic will be A River-Centric View of our Changing Planet. "Just like a physician collects a blood sample to learn about the health of the individual, so too can we collect river water samples to learn about the health of a river and its watershed," Dr. Holmes said.

Our thanks to Laura Morse, who is chairing the event once again. "It feels that the world's challenges and crises affect us dramatically and rapidly," she said. "Dr. Holmes' global perspective will be illustrative of that."

Please plan to join us at 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, July 19, at the Carriage House at the National Academy of Sciences Jonsson Conference Center for the lecture and the reception that follows.

WELCOME, LISA BERNSTEIN TO BOARD OF DIRECTORS

We are delighted to welcome Lisa Bernstein to the Board of Directors. Residents of Washington, D.C., Lisa; her husband, Joshua; and their three grown children have spent their summers in Woods Hole and Quissett for many years. They are all sailors, and, at one time, Lisa ran the Quissett Yacht Club sailing program. "We love the Quissett community, and Quissett Harbor is an integral element," Lisa said. "We have to take care of it and steward it just as we would each other." Lisa is an educator and strategist whose work focuses on empowering teachers to continually improve their practice. We know she will be a great asset to the Board.



Lisa and Joshua Bernstein

WELCOME, JENNIFER BETH KELLY

We are pleased to welcome Jennifer Beth Kelly, who is joining Nancy McDonald in providing administrative support to the Trust. Jennifer is replacing Wendy Martyna, who stepped down recently to accept a full-time position. Jennifer will be handling gift acknowledgement, fundraising updates and membership lists. Nancy will continue to be involved in the website, newsletter and email list. A native of Falmouth, Jennifer said: "I am happy to have the opportunity to help cultivate the mission and preservation objectives of a special place that is dear to me." You will have the opportunity to meet Jennifer at the Beach Cleanup.

SAVE THE DATES!

- Saturday, June 20: Beach Cleanup
9:00–11:00 a.m.
- Saturday, June 27: Annual Meeting of Members
5:00–7:30 p.m.
- Sunday, July 19: Wheeler Lecture
5:00 p.m.



A mother fox and her kits have taken up housekeeping on the Knob.

FINANCES 2019 (JANUARY 1–DECEMBER 31, 2019)

Contributions for annual dues and our projects totaled \$179,752 during calendar-year 2019. In total we've raised \$539,000 for the Rock Armor Project, and we have a pledge of an additional \$50,000 from Salt Pond Areas Bird Sanctuaries. As of April 2020, we have also raised \$80,000 toward removing invasive plants and replanting on land behind the Harbor House and on the pathways of the Knob. Much of our expense in 2019 went toward design, engineering fees and fees working to secure all the permits required.

On April 22 the Trust's Assets were \$1,304,806. Regretfully, during March and April of this year due to the stock market decline we lost \$38,000 of the \$66,000 we earned last year. We have over \$100,000 at Rockland Bank in our operating account and \$700,000 in cash invested with Fidelity. This is reserved for the rock armor repair project construction costs. We have an additional \$500,000 at Fidelity, split between equity and bond funds.

Assets as of January 1, 2019	\$1,121,287.27
Contributions	\$179,752.10
Dividends and Interest	\$22,947.11
Unrealized Gains	\$66,144.80
Expenses:	
• Program Expense (includes Knob consulting)	\$20,995.16
• Communications	\$944.00
• Meetings/Wheeler/Annual	\$3,326.44
• Administration, accounting, tax filing	\$10,742.10
Total Expenses	\$36,007.70

Net Income:.....\$221,865.48
Assets as of December 31, 2019:.....\$1,343,152.75

JOIN US FOR THE BEACH CLEANUP SATURDAY, JUNE 20, 9:00–11:00 A.M.

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES ADDED TO THE EVENT THIS YEAR!

It's that time of year again! Our 10th Annual Harbor and Beach Cleanup will take place Saturday, June 20. Our thanks to Danie Kinkade for chairing the Beach Cleanup for the third year. In 2020 we are planning to make the day an even more family-friendly event with kayaks available for use after the cleanup and a barbecue lunch for socializing among all ages. So bring the whole family.

Parents of young adults: We hope you will encourage them to join us! It's a great way to explore the Knob and have fun while helping to preserve this amazing natural resource we share. We start at 9:00 a.m., meeting at the Quissett Yacht Club Sailing Class Deck for a light breakfast of pastries, coffee, juice and water. We have a limited supply of work gloves, but if you have your own, please bring them with you. Of course, bring sunscreen and a hat, and keep your fingers crossed for a beautiful day!

DON'T MISS OUR ANNUAL MEETING OF MEMBERS

**SATURDAY, JUNE 27,
5:00–7:30 P.M.**

Our Annual Meeting of Members will take place at Quissett Harbor House's Willett Hall and lawn. The meeting is on Saturday, June 27, from 5:00–7:30 p.m. We will continue the format of holding a business meeting followed by a reception. The Annual Meeting is a great way to stay informed and connect with your fellow QHPT members. *For more information, contact Nancy McDonald at nancymcd1@gmail.com.*

