

Siasconset Civic Association

Newsletter Spring 2016

Year round Sconseters settled into a different pace of life this fall after our summer friends closed up their cottages and headed for home. Many in the village enjoyed the annual December gathering at the Casino sharing a potluck dinner, Christmas carols and a visit from Santa. Although the rotary was without it's power source, Mark Donato made sure that Sconset had an illuminated Christmas tree near the Market throughout the holiday season for all of us to enjoy.

Snooky and Gerry Eldridge decorated the Sconset Firehouse with wreaths on the doors, adorned the large tree in the yard with beautiful sparkling lights, and on the front lawn, placed our beautiful antique reindeer pulling Santa's sleigh. The New Street farm stand was decorated by Debbie Bechtold in festive greens and lights that served to welcome us to the village each time we drove by. The island experienced a fairly mild winter with some gusty winds, occasional rain, but very little snow, making this winter quite a bit different than last.



Construction on the Sconset playground began in September and was efficiently completed by mid October. It was a pleasure to see our new Sconset playground a buzz with excited children, their parents and grandparents, discovering all of the new climbing structures, swings and slides throughout the winter months. There was even a group of Mom's and children enjoying a picnic at the playground on a warm day in March. This new playground is a wonderful gift to all of the families of Sconset and surrounding villages and will be enjoyed for years to come. A huge thank you to the dedicated playground committee who made this happen! There will be an official opening celebration for the playground on Saturday, July 2, from 3:30-5pm with a rain date of Sunday, July 3, from 3:30pm-5pm. Refreshments will be served. All are welcome to attend.



Missing from photo is Carol Moffitt

The Sconset Civic Association continues to work with the Town of Nantucket's DPW on the installation of the new flagpole at the rotary. Kara Buzanoski, Director of the Department of Public Works, has been invited to attend our July public meeting to give us an update on the flagpole project and field questions from SCA members. (we currently have a temporary flag pole in place because the original pole lost structural integrity)

Many of you may know that the Town of Nantucket has hired a new Fire Chief, Paul Rhude, and that our Sconset Fire House has undergone some changes this winter. Due to the mandatory retirement age of 65 for all Massachusetts Firefighters, and the fact that every member of the Sconset fire squad was 65 years or older, they all

retired in December. We are so very grateful to Snooky Eldridge (56yrs), Gerry Eldridge (54yrs), Skip Vollans (37yrs), Carol Moffitt (25yrs), and Rob Benchley (25yrs), for their many years of dedicated service to our village. They will be recognized and honored at our July Sconset Civic Association meeting. All are welcome and encouraged to attend the meeting to show your support and gratitude to these dedicated firefighters. Fire Chief Rhude will be our guest speaker and will welcome questions about the current status of the Sconset Fire Department and it's future.

Please mark your calendars with these dates of the Sconset Civic Association meetings;
Wednesday, July 6th at 6:30pm
Wednesday, August 3rd at 6pm (BBQ to follow for all current SCA members)

Gene Hilzenrath, our Civic Association Treasurer, reports that the SCA is in very good financial condition. In 2015 we had 200 dues paying households and our donation levels are strong. Last year we joined the Community Foundation for Nantucket (CFN) giving our members an opportunity to make tax-deductible contributions to be used for special projects. For example, we partnered with the Sconset Trust in the beautification of the triangle at the entrance to Sconset at New and Main Streets. We ended the year with a total cash balance of \$84,000 of which \$16,000 is deposited with the CFN. Last year we funded a \$2,500 scholarship to a deserving Sconset high school senior, and we have another applicant for this year's scholarship.

Kindly complete the enclosed membership form and return the envelope with your dues payment of \$40 per household. Please consider making a tax deductible donation to the Sconset Civic Association via the Community Foundation of Nantucket so that we may continue to fund targeted projects in Sconset. Thank you for your support and generosity.

We look forward to the arrival of our friends to Sconset for the upcoming summer season!

Sincerely, Martha Polachi, *President*

SCA BOARD MEMBERS

Ray Grubbs, *VP*; Gene Hilzenrath, *Treasurer*; Mary Will,
Secretary; David Boyce, *Clerk*; Mark Donato, *Ex Officio*;

Cathy Bowman, Kathy Cheek, Charles Cruice, Sheila Daume, Nelson Eldridge, Janet Eyre,
Patty Gibian, Jennie Greene, Ginger Ivey, Greg Nichols, CO North,
Marcia Richards Susan Ried, Kate Starrett