

Siasconset Civic Association

Spring Newsletter — 2012

Message from the President

The weather for the Daffodil parade and picnic was lovely and 'Sconset showed its true colors to hundreds of visitors. With Main Street closed to vehicles, it was so pleasant to take in the beauty of our special village by strolling up the center line. Many 'Sconseters set up their picnics and waited for neighbors and old friends to drop by. A yearly highlight is to see David Hulme and Kim Preston riding David's side by side bicycle with a canopy top. By 5 O'clock 'Sconset had returned to its Brigadoon status and not a person, car, or bit of trash was to be seen.

Winter rarely, if ever, appeared this year. It was difficult to find snow this winter. Like most of the eastern seaboard, flowers and trees bloomed early and lawns were in need of mowing a month ahead of time. The warm weather has brought numerous building projects and home facelifts to our village. The 'Sconset Bluff was a beneficiary of this easy winter. Minimal erosion took place giving Baxter Road residents a brief respite from Mother Nature. The SBPF also won a victory at Town Meeting when Nantucket voters lifted the moratorium on erosion projects on town land. There is still a long hard battle ahead to save the eastern end of the island.

After years of diligent work, the 'Sconset Trust and the Nantucket Land Bank purchased the 'Sconset Golf course and a large parcel of abutting land forever protecting the entrance to our village. The Civic Association has supported this project for years and I encourage you to extend a warm thanks to your fellow neighbors and Trust members when you see them this summer. The Land Bank plans to continue to operate the land as a golf course.

Sadly, not everything this winter was good news. Marina Finch, who has been the friendly face of the 'Sconset Bookstore the last few years, passed away. She was a fellow Civic Association board member and a dedicated 'Sconset citizen. The Siasconset Casino was the site of a Memorial which was packed with firefighters, scallopers, and islanders whom she had touched. It was a wonderful tribute to a generous soul.



Pear trees in early bloom along Baxter Road

Association dues will remain at \$40 in 2012. Additional amounts given help the scholarship fund and beautification of 'Sconset.

As the weather warms and the days grow longer, we year 'round 'Sconset residents are peering over the crest of Main Street hoping to catch a glimpse of friends and neighbors returning for the summer.

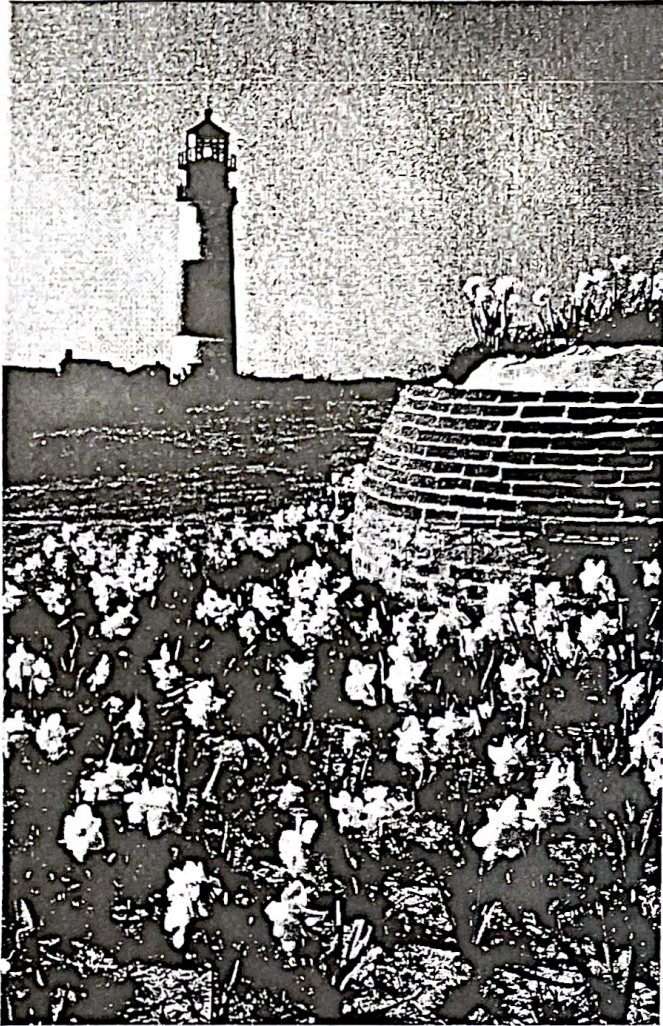
Hurry Home!

Sincerely 'Sconset,
Mark Donato

'Sconset Playground Update

The 'Sconset Civic Association Playground Subcommittee is pleased to report that the playground project has steadily progressed over the winter months. After receiving a generous contribution of \$5,000 from the Assaf family, the committee met with Eric Savetsky of the Land Bank, which owns the lot where the existing swings are located. The Land Bank has pledged their support for the project, and Eric is very enthusiastic about the prospect of a more usable and engaging space for children and families that is consistent with 'Sconset's unique heritage and respectful of the abutting land owners. The Land Bank has pledged to at least match what is currently in the SCA bank account earmarked for the playground and has also offered in-kind support such as landscaping and assis-

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Sankaty Lighthouse, April 19th 2012

—Playground, continued

tance with the installation of play structures. Since the fall, the committee has been researching other playground designs on and off island to obtain ideas. The Land Bank has requested an initial design concept and budget, which we are currently working on developing. By summer, we plan to have a Land Bank-reviewed concept(s) to share with the SCA, the park's immediate neighbors and the broader Sconset community in order to obtain feedback. We also hope to initiate fundraising efforts this summer with, among other things, an event for families in the existing playground area. If you would like to be involved in this effort, please send an email to Jennie Greene: jrobingreene@hotmail.com

Winter Happenings—2012

1) Traffic and Safety: The Civic Association was asked to be present at 2 meetings of the Traffic and Safety Committee. Emergency access for fire trucks on Low Beach Road was discussed. Police Chief Pittman and Fire Chief McDougall stated that the ongoing problem in front of the Summer House must be addressed. At a subsequent on site meeting in April, the heads of department from Fire, Police, DPW, Traffic, and Sconset Civic Association walked the problem area. 3 different solutions were floated. They will be presented to the applicable boards this spring. The only immediate action to be taken will be to prune and remove growth from the bluff side of Low Beach Road. The Civic Association asked and was granted that the growth along Gulley Road also be addressed.

2) At the annual 2012 Town Meeting, the Civic Association spoke in favor of lifting the moratorium which had denied the SBPF from continuing the permitting process and implementation of erosion control.

3) The Civic Association has asked the DPW to paint the bus shed at the Rotary. We also requested new bike racks. If our requests are unsuccessful, the board will discuss paying for these projects out of SCA operating funds. The Sconset bulletin board is in need of a paint job and does not fall under the scope of the DPW.

4) The Nantucket police department will continue with the presence of bicycle patrols in the summer.

The SCA will continue to hire Charlie Dragon to do spring gardening and cleanup at the Rotary and other areas. The daily beautification work continues to be done by a dedicated hard working group of Sconset volunteers.

5) Mark Donato represented the SCA at 3 meetings of the Nantucket Civic League which encompasses all the island civic associations.

Mark Your Calendars!

July meeting @ 7PM July 9 (Monday)
August meeting and BBQ Aug 6 @ 6PM (Monday)