

# Siasconset Civic Association

Spring Newsletter - 2014

## Warm Sconset greetings to all!

After a never-ending, brutal winter Sconset is showing signs of a beautiful summer to come. Warm days, trees in full foliage, Sconseters walking the lanes and congregating outside the Post Office once again are all welcome sights.

98 MPH winds were recorded at Sankaty during a late March storm. It appears most homes came through unscathed, but many trees and limbs were downed. Our lovely Main Street appearance underwent slight changes: 6 trees were removed. Many thanks go out to the Nantucket DPW for replacing them promptly with new trees approximately 16' in height. The DPW is also responsible for repairing and painting the footbridge. The SCA has had these repairs on our town wish list for years. We bring most Sconset issues to the town's attention on a quarterly basis.

The flagpole in our rotary is another, less promising story. Problems with removing the old pole continue to hamper the project. On 6/7/14 the SCA donated \$3275 to expedite the process which, seems to be glacial due to budgetary and staffing constraints. I have been in constant contact with the DPW throughout the winter. Let's hope the squeaky wheel does get the oil sooner rather than later. Sadly, the rotary remains an eye sore.

Joe Arvay persists in his multi-year pursuit of getting National Grid to bury the power lines in Sconset. We have all been paying for this service for years and the project completion date has come and gone. The cable company and the phone company finished their work long ago. If you feel as passionately about unsightly overhead lines in our historic district as Joe does please contact him. He has been a one-man committee and could use your help going forward.

Exciting news! The SCA, working in tandem with the Nantucket Police Department, is happy to announce that Sconset will have a designated police officer this summer. For the past decade Sconset has been patrolled by a cruiser passing briefly through the village while on the Milestone/Polpis circular route. The addition of a designated officer will result in shorter response times as well as better monitoring of noise complaints, traffic violations, and other village nuisances. I have expressed our thanks to Chief Pittman and the NPD for responding to our concerns which were voiced at our annual meeting. When citizens (SCA) get involved in their community, good things do happen!

SCA continues to promote our tradition of providing scholarships to Sconset residents. A big Sconset Thanks to Al Lussier who has run this program for many years.

Sincerely Sconset,  
Mark Donato, President

**SCA meetings 2014:**  
Wednesday, July 9 @ 7,  
Wednesday Aug 6 @ 6 BBQ.



Photo by Rob Benchley

## Codfish Park Playground

As summer quickly approaches, here is a brief update on the 'Sconset Playground and Park Project. With the support of over 65 island families, several private foundations, and many local businesses and organizations, including the 'Sconset Civic Association, \$62,000 has been raised for new playground equipment. Most recently, we were awarded a \$10,000 grant from the Nantucket Golf Club.

Last summer, the design committee met with many 'Sconseters to review and revise the plan, developed by Julie Jordin of Garden Design and Fred Martin of Environmental Design LLC. The goal of the meetings was to help ensure that the restoration of the playground, which previously existed in Codfish Park, would remain in keeping with 'Sconset's unique community, history and aesthetic. This winter, the plan received strong support from the HDC and the Conservation Commission and met federal and state accessibility standards.

Since then, the Conservation Commission's approval has been appealed by three abutting neighbors under the Wetlands Protection Act. The appeal was filed with the state Department of Environmental Protection and the Nantucket Superior Court. The Land Bank is committed to seeing this project through and believes that the Conservation Commission's approval will be upheld and resolved in short order. The Superior Court process may take until fall to reach resolution.



Photo by Rob Benchley

For now, the 'Sconset Park and Playground Fund at the Community Foundation for Nantucket is still receiving donations. (All funds donated to the project are tax deductible and dedicated to new playground structures and site preparation.) If you haven't already, please consider donating to this important community project.

## Siasconset Civic Association Board Members

Mark Donato, Rob Benchley, Roxanne Casscells, Kathy Cheek, Daryl Westbrook, Janet Eyre, Kate, O'Reilly, Jennie Greene, Maria Peacock, Martha Polachi, Marcia Richards, Kit Murphy, Alison Cokorinos, Sheila Daume, Ray Grubbs, Chip Cruice, Patty Gibian, Ginger Ivey, Gene Hilzenrath, Kate Starrett, Al Lussier.