

# QUARTERBOARD

CUTTYHUNK HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
www.cuttyhunkhistoricalsociety.com

Serving the Elizabeth Islands Since 1978 ■ Summer Telephone 508.984.4611

23 Tower Hill Road ■ Cuttyhunk, Massachusetts 02713

## SUMMER HIGHLIGHTS AT CHS

### SUMMER 2007

**The Annual Meeting** of the Cuttyhunk Historical Society, Inc. will be held at 9:30 A.M. on Saturday, August 18, 2007, at the Cuttyhunk Church. All members are invited to attend.

**WE'RE LOOKING FORWARD** to Summer 2007 on Cuttyhunk. The Museum of the Elizabeth Islands will be open from June 29 through Labor Day. Shelly Merriam and the Exhibits Committee of Allie Thurston, Nancy Twichell, Mary Todd and Sandy Earle are busy planning two exciting new exhibits, with associated activities for families — including backpacks, explorer games and an “Archaeological Dig.”

#### **Bartholomew Gosnold: Cuttyhunk to Jamestown, 1602–1607**

The exhibit looks at how the Englishman Gosnold's 1602 voyage to coastal New England and Cuttyhunk shaped plans for a second voyage. Gosnold captained the *Godspeed*, one of three ships that landed in Jamestown, Virginia in 1607. A replica of that ship stopped at Cuttyhunk last July, and is now at Jamestown for the 400th anniversary of the first permanent colony in the New World.

The exhibit will introduce Gosnold, offer reasons for his journeys, and explain what he learned. Visitors will be able to experience the 1602 voyage and probe some unresolved questions, including the location of Gosnold's 1602 fort.

*Cuttyhunk's West End pond and the Gosnold Monument, 1993.*



Photo: Janet Wilder

#### **Cuttyhunk Images: Janet Wilder, Photojournalist**

The exhibit features Janet's photographic images of the island's changing vistas, wild-life, locals, visitors and events since 1940.

Her image of Cuttyhunk's West End ponds and the



Photo: Janet Wilder

*A party for island “over 90’s” on July 4, 1981, at the Cuttyhunk Fishing Club. (L to R) Charlie Tilton, Catherine Munds, Marion Smith and Bob Tilton.*

Gosnold monument has graced a CHS poster for many years.

#### **Mark Your Calendars**

We'll begin the season with our traditional festive Opening Party on the museum lawn on Saturday, June 30 (raindate July 1). A special attraction will be a sealed bid auction with some wonderful items: four first edition hand-colored Audubon engravings of shorebirds, donated by Kathleen Patton; and a beautiful Swarovski crystal starfish 3-strand necklace, hand made and donated by Susan Wick. A big thank you goes to these generous donors!

Later in July, we're off on the *M/V Cuttyhunk* for “**Explore the Islands**,” an evening historical cruise narrated by Carolyn Powers, former manager of

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## CHS ADDS WEBSITE: [cuttyhunkhistoricalsociety.com](http://cuttyhunkhistoricalsociety.com)

### HAVE YOU SEEN OUR NEW WEBSITE?

Go to [cuttyhunkhistoricalsociety.com](http://cuttyhunkhistoricalsociety.com) to find out the Society's latest news and access our publications and historical information. It's still “under construction,” but look for new features including mail ordering from the Museum Shop by early summer. Thanks go to Hal Granger, Lexi Lynch and Paula DiMare for developing our site.

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Cuttyhunk Island,  
MA 02713  
Summer Telephone:  
508.984.4611  
cuttyhunkhistoricalsociety.com

The purpose of the Cuttyhunk Historical Society is to preserve the traditions, records, and history of the Elizabeth Islands for the benefit of present and future generations. The Society, launched in 1978, was incorporated in 1982.

### Museum Director

Alexandra Earle  
Shelly Merriam,  
*Museum Associate*

### Directors 2006–2007

Ann Conway, *President*  
Roxy Leeson, *Vice President*  
Kris Lombard, *Treasurer*  
John Moore, *Secretary*

Gail Blout  
Paula DiMare  
Paul Elias  
Christopher Hart  
Ann Kimball  
Lexi Lynch  
Ned Prevost  
Robert Smith  
Mary Todd  
Dawn Vogt  
David Warr

**Quarterboard** is the newsletter of the Cuttyhunk Historical Society and is published twice a year.

Louise Garfield Bachler, *Editor*

### CALENDAR ON SALE

Our 2007 *Cuttyhunk & the Elizabeth Islands* calendar is now on sale. The calendar runs through January 2008 and now costs \$5 (+ \$2.50 s&h). Contact Sandy at [maralex@aol.com](mailto:maralex@aol.com), or 401-351-2377.

## NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

WELL, WE HAD A LOVELY LONG FALL SEASON and it felt like winter might never come, so I am not terribly surprised to be wondering when spring will come as I watch the forecast for yet another snow-storm while I compose my summer message!

At our recent meeting of the Board of Directors of CHS we all celebrated the fabulous response to our first annual appeal letter which was mailed in late 2006. We have received over \$13,000 and are thrilled with such generosity of our membership. I give special thanks to Ned Prevost, the chair of the Annual Appeal, Roxy Leeson, CHS Vice President, Weezie Bachler, CHS Quarterboard Editor, and our Museum Director, Sandy Earle for their special efforts to make this happen. This generous response makes a statement. It demonstrates how important our exhibitions, newsletters, collection and efforts to preserve the history of the Elizabeth Islands are to our membership. I tip my hat to so many of our special friends who worked tirelessly to bring our organization from its meager beginnings to the professional exhibitions that we have offered in recent years. I pledge my efforts to maintain this quality product and hope that more Cuttyhunkers will be drawn to greater active participation in CHS. Once you start working as a docent you may find yourself enjoying a new dimension of Cuttyhunk summers!

ANN CONWAY

## SUMMER HIGHLIGHTS AT CHS, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

CHS and now Director of the Falmouth Historical Society. Dawn Vogt and Roxy Leeson are arranging this gala event set for Saturday, July 28.

On Saturday, August 4, there will be a trip to Penikese Island. John Paul Hunter will transport us on *Seaborse*, and we will have a tour and luncheon at the school. Space is limited, so be sure to sign up early.

On August 9, Richard LaMotte, author of *Pure Sea Glass*, will satisfy islanders' passion for collecting sea glass along the many beaches. LaMotte's presentation is titled **History in the Sand**. His wife Nancy assists with the program which touches on the history, collection and identification of sea glass. Attendees may bring in their own pieces for him to discuss, and he will sign copies of his book.

### More News

Thanks to Shelly Merriam, the Society has acquired 18 watercolor paintings by Mary Lindenberg, a well-known Dartmouth artist who painted on Cuttyhunk for many years. The paintings appear to be from the 1950s and 60s, and they depict individual houses, the village and views of those decades. Lindenberg has exhibited in many galleries, co-founded Massachusetts Arts Week, worked for the New Bedford-based Bierstadt Society and taught art at the New Bedford YMCA. We look forward to exhibiting this charming island collection in the future.

*The Gosnold Discoveries...in the North Part of Virginia* by Lincoln Dexter has been reprinted for the Museum Shop. There will be material on the Jamestown adventure and new books for adults and kids, including Norman Fortier's *On the Wind*. Other new shop items are *Stripers Gone Wild*, a DVD by Mike Laptew; Mike Riley's striking panoramic photograph of the view from Tower Hill; and a postcard featuring Jan Wilder's photography. We'll also carry Tervis Tumblers (insulated plastic glasses) with our logo.

We will welcome all CHS members to the museum. We hope you will consider joining us as volunteers, or will continue volunteering. Last year, several loyal souls contributed much to the maintenance of the shrubbery and gardens around the museum building. We'd like to formalize their efforts into a Garden Committee, and we invite those of you with a horticultural bent to help out with planting flowers and controlling the ever-sprawling briars. Please let me know if you can give us a few hours.

Of course, volunteers are always needed within the museum: greeting visitors, answering questions and helping with shop sales. This year, we're planning to give you more information about the exhibits to share with our guests. As always, there will be Volunteer Appreciation events. Please join us as Docents or help with other museum tasks such as research, cataloguing, interviewing islanders, transcribing, writing monographs, and helping with social events and refreshments. We appreciate all that you do.

SANDY EARLE

## GOSNOLD FOR THE YOUNG

Fourth grader Caroline Garfield, like so many islanders, knew that Gosnold sailed to Cuttyhunk in 1602. When she learned that he first stopped along the coast of what later became her hometown in Maine, she wrote a report. An excerpt follows:

**"BARTHOLOMEW GOSNOLD** is the man who discovered Cuttyhunk hundreds of years ago. He was born in 1572, and died in 1607. He was an English lawyer, explorer, and privateer...He pioneered a direct route due west from the Azores to New England, arriving in May 1602 at Cape Elizabeth, Maine! The next day he sailed to Cape Cod, a place he is credited with naming."


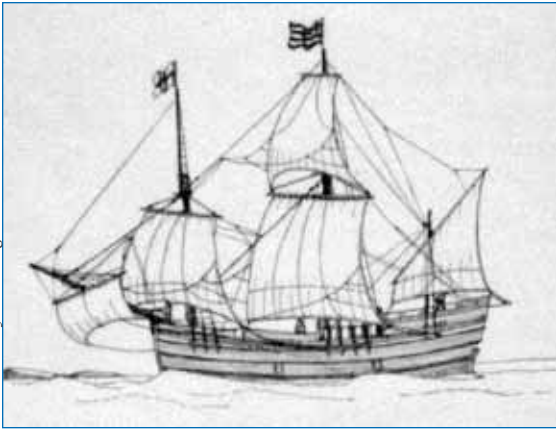
At the summer exhibit, children will be able to climb into a shipboard bunk with a mattress made of straw and try being an archeologist. They can carefully remove layers of soil to find "artifacts" from the early 1600s and then look for buttons, coins, pottery, glass beads, and more in the exhibit. 


Photo: New Bedford Whaling Museum's on-line archive



*Sketch by William Baker of the Concord, Gosnold's ship on his 1602 voyage to Cape Cod and the Islands.*

## CHS ON THE ROAD, AGAIN

**PENIKESE — ISLAND OF HOPE**, on loan from The Museum of the Elizabeth Islands, will be on exhibit at the Harwich Historical Society from June 24th until mid-October. This exhibition (linked to I. Thomas Buckley's book of the same name) explores the time from 1905–1921 when the State of Massachusetts operated a leprosarium on the island. For 16 years, Dr. Frank Parker, an infectious disease specialist, and his wife Marion treated and cared for patients afflicted with leprosy, later known as Hansen's Disease.

On July 12, at 7 p.m., Yale professor Dr. George Joseph and author Tom Buckley will present "Leprosy" at Brooks Free Library. Contact information: [www.harwichhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.harwichhistoricalsociety.org), 508.432.8089. 80 Parallel St., Harwich, MA 02645. 

### TIDBIT: THE JIMSON WEED

The Jimson Weed is a corruption of "Jamestown Weed" which seems to have first appeared in America at Jamestown. The local natives called it "White Man's Weed" as it apparently grew only close to the settlers' homes. Other nicknames are thorn apple, stinkweed, Devil's Apple, and Mad Apple. The foliage has a strong unpleasant odor and all parts of the plant are poisonous to livestock and humans. The trumpet-like flowers are white or purple, and resemble morning glory.

*Contributed by Massachusetts Audubon guide  
Woody Mills*

## TARPAULIN COVE LIGHTHOUSE FUND

*Donors: April 2006–March 2007*

In 2001, CHS obtained the lease on the lighthouse which was built on Naushon in 1759. The fund is used for restoration and maintenance of the only standing lighthouse in the town of Gosnold.

George Achille  
George M. Anderson III  
Mr. & Mrs. William Bancroft  
Ned Barden & Kathleen Patton  
Jean & Sandy Brown  
Mr. & Mrs. Miller Brown  
Jack Bulwidas  
Edward Camara, Jr.  
Ann & Jim Conway  
Judith H. Cook  
Joel & Ruth Davis  
William H. Eddy, Jr.  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Elmore  
Joseph Frothingham  
Mr. & Mrs. Horace Garfield

Wyatt & Katharine Garfield  
Dr. & Mrs. Jeff Goodwin  
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James & Flora Lovell  
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Catharine & David Newbury  
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Seamond Roberts

Leo-Pierre Roy & Perry Russell  
Paricia Saltsman  
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Mrs. Duncan Scott  
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Dr. Marjorie E. R. Sullivan  
Patricia & Alan Symonds  
Kate W. Tabor  
Emil 'Bud' Tietje  
Joseph Twichell & Anne Goodrich  
Mr. & Mrs. David Warr  
Hester H. Whitcher  
Mr. & Mrs. John Williamson  
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Zimbone

### SEEKING ALLEN HOUSE MEMORIES

For a memoir about my Allen House years, 1981–1993, I am looking for stories from guests and former employees during that period.

Please email  
[MargoSolod@rockbridge.net](mailto:MargoSolod@rockbridge.net)  
or write Margo Solod  
P.O. Box 113  
Lexington, VA 24450

### 200 Years Ago...

The census listed two families living on "Cutterhunk."

## ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

CHS is planning to add to its collection of oral histories. Two volumes of *People of Cuttyhunk*, containing interviews with such luminaries as Mary House and Howard Cornell, have been for sale in the Museum Shop. Meanwhile, new interviews have been done and others are slated for summer 2007. Volunteers are needed to conduct and transcribe interviews in order to complete and publish a third volume of *People*. If this sounds enticing, please contact Louise Garfield Bachler for an assignment, on island or at 802.387.5548 or weezrock52@yahoo.com



Photo: CHS Collection

*The Alert I.*

## IN MEMORIAM

We are saddened to report the recent passing of these island friends:

*Dot Smith Brown  
Janet Adair Wilder*

Robin Younger related that her mother, Janet Wilder, really had fun going through her many albums to select favorite photographs for the upcoming CHS exhibit. Janet, a loyal docent for many years, turned 90 last August.

Shelly Merriam speaks for the many islanders who knew Janet, "What a wonderful, vibrant spirit Janet was — living each day fully, embracing life and its wonders, sharing her sense of humor and generous nature with everyone. We are blessed to have known her. She leaves the gift of her talents and love of Cuttyhunk through her many photographs and writings she created for us to enjoy. Her visions are a 'snap in time' that keep us connected to our island history and those who came before us." 🚤

## NAUSHON NEWS

### EFFORTS TO DETER BRUSH ON NAUSHON CONTINUE

Fencing in limited areas, proscribed burnings, and the addition of 26 cattle to work as mowers were the initial tactics. This spring 50 goats will arrive to help. The great question is how they will survive the expected onslaught of the resident coyotes. Their guardian is a donkey named Foggy who is also a new Naushon resident and has a loud voice and an intolerance for canines.

HOLLY LEON

## HISTORY IN THE MAKING

### LAST OF THE ALERTS — A 90-YEAR TRADITION ENDS

After 19 years ferrying residents, tourists, mail and freight to Cuttyhunk, the *M/V Alert II* has returned to its roots as a water shuttle for oil rig crews in the Gulf of Mexico. In December 2006, owners Linda,

Richard "Ray," and Rick Hopps sold the ferry, the second *Alert*.

The first *Alert* was built for William Wood, to carry materials for building Winter House on Cuttyhunk. It operated as a ferry from 1917–1987.

### CONSERVATION COMMISSION APPOINTED

At a Special Town Meeting on March 16, 2007, voters ignored a snowy nor'easter and accepted by an overwhelming margin the state law allowing the Gosnold Selectmen to appoint a Conservation Commission. The selectmen then appointed the following 5 Commissioners: Lisa Wright, Michael Parker, Seymour DiMare, Jay Merriam, and David Warr. The Town of Gosnold thus became the last of the state's 351 municipalities to set up a Conservation Commission. The Commission was established to promote the preservation of the town's natural resources, especially its wetlands, and to plan for open space. 🚤

*The Alert II at its berth in New Bedford.*



Photo: CHS collection.

*Janet Wilder (middle) at a 1965 women's broadbill tournament at Cuttyhunk, with Alan Potter, Janet Bosworth and Bosworth's white marlin.*



Photo: Cuttyhunk Boat Lines