The Mission of the Nantucket Maria Mitchell Association is promotion of the legacy of Maria Mitchell and exploration, education and enjoyment of Nantucket’s land, waters and skies beyond.

In fulfilling our mission we recognize the historic persona of Maria Mitchell, the foremost American woman scientist and educator of the 19th century, and her potential impact on contemporary thought by passing on her legacy of intellectual curiosity, respect for and love of nature, learning by doing, and the ideal of individualism.

Maria Mitchell’s contributions to astronomy, science, and education are the basis for our continuing tradition of high quality research and teaching which inspires today’s learners and tomorrow’s scientists.

The NMMA provides scientific resources and educational programs for the community, uses Nantucket Island as an exceptional natural laboratory in which to study science and the environment, and maintains research and/or representative collections of Nantucket’s biodiversity.

We strive to delight our members, supporters, and visitors by providing high quality programs, services, and facilities. We strive to ensure our financial viability and the preservation of our buildings and important collections so that current and future generations can share in this legacy. We strive to collaborate with other institutions (both on- and off-island) to share relevant organizational assets to accomplish these objectives, obtain cost efficiencies, and reduce our impact on the environment.
Dear Members and Friends:

Thank you for your generous gifts to the Maria Mitchell Association that allow us to accomplish all that you will read on the pages that follow. Your support is especially appreciated as we make great strides moving forward with improvements planned for the Vestal Street campus, a new Director of Astronomy, and our ongoing work to bring you the Nantucket Aquarium and Science Center on Washington Street, slated for an opening in 2015. (Until then, please continue to visit our facilities in their present locations.)

MMA is poised to implement some significant and meaningful changes based on the work we have accomplished in 2012. As plans for the new Science Center developed, we were reminded of the need to continue to pay attention to the charming campus on Vestal Street and its needs for some freshening. In particular, we are focused on the former library building and converting it to a working ecology laboratory and biological collections storage facility for professional scientists and curious students. At this writing, I am happy to report that our application to the Community Preservation Committee for funding to restore the library’s exterior as a first step in the process has been approved!

After 16 years at the helm of the Maria Mitchell Observatory, Vladimir Strelnitksi, Ph.D. announced his plans to retire in June 2013. During 2012, a search committee at MMA conducted an international search for a new Director of Astronomy. At this writing, we are pleased to announce that Michael J. West, Ph.D., Director of Science at the European Southern Observatory in Santiago, Chile has accepted our offer to join MMA as the sixth Director of the department. We look forward to the ideas and energy he will bring to the program’s solid foundation built by Dr. Strelnitski.

And, of course, our plans for the Nantucket Aquarium and Science Center continue to evolve. MMA staff have taken the story and plans for the project to friends and donors to major cities that are home to our members and friends. After a great deal of review, discussion and preparation, we received a ringing endorsement of our building plans from the Historic District Commission in March, 2013.

All of this forward momentum links directly to the encouragement and financial support of our members, friends, and donors. Your ideas, suggestions, participation, and critique sharpen our focus and clarify our vision to make the Maria Mitchell Association a science learning center for the 21st century.

Finally, I want to acknowledge the family of board, staff, interns, and volunteers who do outstanding work for the Association day in and day out. Thank you to all for your exceptional contributions.

Sincerely yours,
Malcolm W. MacNab, M.D., Ph.D.
President, MMA Board of Managers
To our Members and Friends:

Since its founding in 1902, 110 years ago, the Maria Mitchell Association has been an organization focused on the exploration and enjoyment of the natural world of Nantucket. From the earliest activities of visiting the Mitchell Family home and artifacts, to observing the night sky on the lawn at the Observatory on Vestal Street, to perusing scientific articles and books in the library, and discovering the novelties housed in the Natural Science Museum, MMA has a rich tradition of promoting scientific curiosity and fostering an environment for learning.

Five Directors of Astronomy, beginning with Margaret Harwood through Vladimir Strelnitski have crafted an experience of celestial observations that bring excitement to the first-time visitor to the telescopes and important discoveries for professional and emerging astronomers. We continue this tradition through star-gazing nights at the Loines Observatory, the annual summer program of research of six Astronomy interns through the NSF-funded Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU), and welcoming visiting astronomers to the campus throughout the year. Dr. Michael West’s background and connections will only strengthen this tradition as he assumes the directorship in 2013.

Generations of islanders and summer residents have fond and deep memories of first encountering excitement about science and the natural world in MMA’s science library. Today, more modern means of information gathering and the outstanding resources of the Nantucket Atheneum have replaced the role the library once had. However, the culture of learning that pervaded the library’s programs in its day will be sustained through the re-purposing of the historic building into a laboratory that welcomes scientists of all ages and backgrounds to explore Nantucket’s natural world. An active classroom, laboratory space, and collections facility, the ecology lab will continue the former library’s tradition of discovery to introduce new generations to the wonders of learning about Nantucket’s natural world.

The preservation award given to the Mitchell House in summer 2012 recognizes our most important historical artifact and the origins of all MMA programming – the Mitchell Birthplace. Ironically, it is the most up-to-date 21st century techniques and developments in historic preservation that preserve this remarkable 18th century building. The cornerstone of the Maria Mitchell Association, the Birthplace will long be the jewel in the crown of the MMA campus welcoming visitors to learn more about Maria, her family, 19th century ways of life, Maria’s educational philosophy, and the fascinating elements of historic preservation.

It is this rich tradition of discovery, learning, exploration, and preservation rooted in the legacy of Maria Mitchell herself that leads the MMA to its exciting plans to build a new Aquarium and Science Center on Washington Street. While the facility will be a new addition to MMA and Nantucket, you can be assured that it will feel familiar to all who have sought answers or pursued questions in the resources and facilities of the MMA for the past 110 years. What you have valued in hands-on exploration, collegial learning environments, and accessible research tools on Vestal Street will be fully woven into the fabric of the Washington Street site.

None of these exciting activities and programs would happen without our Galaxy of Support. Thank you to each of you who contribute your time, talent, and treasure to the traditions that make us unique, the ongoing operations we offer daily, and the future aspirations of the Maria Mitchell Association.

Yours truly,
Janet E. Schulte, Ph.D.
Executive Director
Highlight: Preservation and Plans for Expansion

The Mitchell House was the proud recipient of the 2012 Architectural Preservation Award from Nantucket Preservation Trust. If you are a devotee of historic houses, you are familiar with the unique features of the Maria Mitchell Birthplace at 1 Vestal Street. It is a classic piece of Quaker architecture, late eighteenth century in its origin, without electricity or running water, and displaying a prized collection of Mitchell Family artifacts. Its Curator, Jascin Leonardo Finger, has cared for the property throughout her 26 years with the MMA. (She started as a student, later volunteered, and now holds the Curator’s position). Jascin’s leadership on the preservation work on the Mitchell House is built on her strong relationship with several island partners, including financial support from the Community Preservation Committee, the M.S. Worthington Foundation, several friends of the Mitchell House, and the various preservation and conservation experts including: Pen Austin, Sandy Kendall, Nathan Killeen, Jim Tyler, Landmark Facilities Group, Structures-North, John Kraus, Frank Welsh, Michael Devonshire, and Marty Hylton and the students of Preservation Institute: Nantucket.

Planning continued for the new Aquarium and Science Center to be located at 33 Washington Street, across from the present Aquarium. You may recall that the opportunity to build a new Aquarium and Science Center came as the result of a generous land swap with the Nantucket Islands Land Bank in 2010. And, it came at just the right time. The Aquarium and its marine walk and marine ecology programs are among the most popular offerings at MMA, especially for families. As attendance continues to grow and we add new programs to entice the visitor to the site, we have become more and more crowded in the small, intimate space of the 28 Washington Street site. We are poised to build on the success of the Aquarium with a larger facility across the street, to which we will add a domed theater (a.k.a. planetarium), and exhibits of the unique habitats of Nantucket Island. We have begun conversations with island partners, including The Trustees of Reservations and the Nantucket Land Council, to create collaborative exhibits that draw on the expertise and holdings of these island-based organizations. As the portal to Nantucket’s natural world, the Science Center’s vision is to incorporate the exciting work and offerings of all our island conservation and science partners in the new facility.

Please do visit the MMA website at www.mariamitchell.org for the latest updates on developments at the Aquarium and Science Center, and for breaking news and learning opportunities available through the Education Department, at the Aquarium, Natural Science Museum, Mitchell House, and Observatories at their present locations on Washington Street, Vestal Street, and Milk Street Extension.
EXPLORE

The research and collections management projects of the Maria Mitchell Association

All departments maintained an active research agenda in 2012 and continued to work on documenting and improving collections management. Highlights of this impressive body of work by MMA’s staff, interns, members, and volunteers are indicated below. Please visit online or call 508.228.9198 for copies of a department’s 2012 Annual Report to the Executive Director providing details on the research projects, conference presentations, and publications of the departments’ staff.

The 24-inch telescope installed at Loines Observatory in 2007 continues to be a productive research tool for the Astronomy Department. The use of the frame-stacking technique and the CCD frames obtained with the telescope led to the discovery of a hydrogen emission nebula around the “star-laser” MWC 349. This is an object that has been the focus of Dr. Strelnitski’s research and an REU team project for the past sixteen years. The 17-inch telescope and its special filters housed at the Vestal Street location also led to the discovery of a so far unknown type of variability in a quasar.

REU intern projects in 2012 continued the observational and theoretical studies of the rare class of close binary stars containing white dwarfs leading to a model to explain the differences in the stars’ variability patterns by differences in the white dwarf’s temperature. Two REU cosmological projects were connected with the possibility of detecting the first generation galaxies in the expanding Universe by their thermal or masing hydrogen emission lines. The interns undertook two important observational studies of quasars: (1) the broad-band optical monitoring of selected bright quasars for the multi-waveband collaboration with Boston University, and (2) the monitoring of the recently discovered bright quasar PDS 456 with broadband and narrowband filters which shed new light on the physical processes in the hydrogen clouds surrounding the supermassive black hole.

MMO welcomed Prof. Sergei Gulyaev of New Zealand during his two-month sabbatical in August-September 2012. Prof. Gulyaev and Dr. Strelnitski began a joint radio astronomy project, “Super-compact HII Regions.”
The Astronomy Department implemented a number of upgrades in 2012 at the observatories to enhance their research capacity:

1. Recoating of the mirrors on the 24-inch telescope at Loines Observatory with a grant from the American Astronomical Society;

2. Upgrading of the MMO research computer network and its data storage capacity in the Vestal Street Observatory with the help of a generous private donation.

REU Students presented posters on their 2012 research projects at the Annual Meeting of the American Astronomical Society.

Dr. Strelnitski was invited to give the keynote presentation on “Advances in Maser Theory,” at the Symposium 287 of the International Astronomical Union, South Africa in January, 2012. He also gave a talk at the international workshop, “Radio Stars,” at the MIT Haystack Observatory in October, 2012.

The research activities of the Mitchell House, Archives, and Special Collections focused on the conservation of the Maria Mitchell Birthplace and the papers and library of Maria Mitchell, the Mitchell family, and the Maria Mitchell Association. As the need arose, the Curator also oversaw the conservation of other historic properties on the MMA campus. The conservation activities were undertaken with support from the Community Preservation Act, the M.S. Worthington Foundation, and gifts from individuals to support particular projects. A complete listing may be found in the Giving Section of this report.

The major conservation projects undertaken on the Mitchell House in 2012 were:

1. Ultraviolet filters on the southern window sashes were replaced.

2. Repairs were made to the root cellar lime wash and the chimney lime parge.

3. Supports in the root cellar were tightened up.

4. Peeling paint in the Birth Room and Hallways was removed and in-painting of the areas of loss was completed so it all blends smoothly.
5. Completion of a written Disaster Plan for the Mitchell House, Archives and Special Collections.

6. Ongoing maintenance of William Mitchell’s garden and the re-introduction of a purple fig, a plant observed in the garden by John Quincy Adams.

Work based on the papers and library of Maria Mitchell, the Mitchell family and the Maria Mitchell Association included:

1. Cataloging of the representative collection of the Observatory’s glass slide plate collection.

2. Installation of dataloggers to study the relative humidity, temperature and moisture content in the former Library and the Drake Cottage archives room.

3. Continued work to clean, stabilize, and re-locate the Special Collection books to the climate-controlled storage space in Drake Cottage.

More than forty research requests related to Maria Mitchell, her family, and the MMA Archives and Special Collections were made to the Department in 2012 including the following topics: the 1878 Colorado eclipse, natural science journals, and nineteenth century botanical books.

The Curator, Jascin Leonardo Finger, published a piece on MMA, Maria Mitchell and the Mitchell Family on the website of the National Collaborative of Women’s History Sites. She is also a key partner on the project to compile the journals of Edith F. Andrews, MMA Ornithologist Emerita. The 2012 Mitchell House intern researched the lives and accomplishments of some of Maria Mitchell’s Vassar College students. “Maria Mitchell’s Attic,” - a blog focused on the Mitchell House provides readers with insights into the working of a historic house museum and reflections on the artifacts of the House and the Special Collections. It has a devoted following of readers, and we encourage you to sign up and follow this fascinating story line about one of MMA’s gems!
The **Department of Natural Sciences** continues to conduct research and forge collaborations to study the biodiversity of Nantucket’s flora and fauna. A list of collaborators and funding sources is included in the Giving Section of this report. Research remains focused on invertebrates, snakes, osprey and barn owls. Thirteen active research projects were worked on in 2012 and work continued toward digitizing research and collections data.

The following research projects were undertaken by the Natural Sciences Department in 2012:

1. Reintroduction of the American burying beetle project;
2. Purseweb Spiders on Tuckernuck Island to monitor the level of site fidelity;
3. Fossil Collection at Sankaty Bluff to document gastropods and mollusks that lived in the area over 120,000 years ago;
4. Population Dynamics and Movements of Nantucket Ospreys. Banded fourteen of thirty chicks in thirteen nests making this the most productive year ever for Nantucket ospreys;
5. Population Survey of the Barn Owls of Nantucket. A total of 56 fledglings and 7 adult Barn Owls were banded in 2012; seven birds banded between 2007 and 2011 were recaptured. A report analyzing banding data from 1987-2012 can be found at: [http://www.nuttallclub.org/Blake/2012.julia.blyth.pdf](http://www.nuttallclub.org/Blake/2012.julia.blyth.pdf);
6. MMA/Nantucket Shellfish Association Scallop Research Projects included: continued study of the wild populations of Bay Scallops and their distribution, survival and reproduction in Nantucket waters. As partners with the Nantucket Shellfish Association, Nantucket High School and the Marine and Coastal Resources Department, MMA continues to support monitoring work. The first chapter of Val Hall’s dissertation research on the Nantucket Bay Scallops has been submitted for publication;
7. Biodiversity inventory of the Marine Fishes and Invertebrates of Nantucket and Madaket with 80 species of vertebrates and 58 species of invertebrates collected. A complete list can be found in the “2012 Annual Report Scientific Collecting Permit No. 146078.” All data from 2003 forward is being put into an Access database. Modifications made to data collection methods in 2012 will rectify earlier inconsistencies with data collection and entry;
8. Study of the Biodiversity of the Snakes of Nantucket researching the activity periods, habitat use, life history traits, and approximate densities for the snakes of Nantucket and Tuckernuck. A paper on coloration patterns of Nantucket snakes has been submitted for publication. A video of the Tuckernuck survey where over 20 snakes were found under one cover board has been made into a You-Tube video;

9. Insect diversity inside and outside of a deer enclosure in collaboration with the Nantucket Conservation Foundation;

10. Nightjar Surveys on Nantucket with 5 Whip-poor-wills heard on 6 May and 31 May as part of the Mass. Division of Fisheries and Wildlife/Northeast Nightjar Surveys. Thirteen whip-poor-wills were heard in the Central Moors;

11. Road Kill Survey of Nantucket included the submission of 79 records to the State for their database;

12. Dragonflies and Damselfly Inventory added 3 damselflies and 7 dragonflies to the original 1917 Odonates species list;

13. Spring Surveys of Horseshoe Crabs on Nantucket in May and June 2012. Warmer weather in the spring indicated that a survey should have been included in April, as well.

The activity of the Natural Science Department generally creates new specimens for MMA’s biological collections. In 2012, 12 bird specimens were prepared for the Edith F. Andrews Ornithological Collection and an addition of 26 other specimens were received including a Brown Pelican, Yellow-Breasted Chat, Wilson’s Storm Petrel, Sora, and a Blue Grosbeak. The bird specimens were photographed and labeled by Kenneth Blackshaw.

MMA Natural Science Department researchers participated in three conferences in 2012: The Society for the Preservation of Natural History Collections, Milford Aquaculture Conference, and the American Arachnological Society.
EDUCATE

The educational program and learning resources of the Maria Mitchell Association

This year’s *Discovery program* saw the incorporation of new safety features including lifeguard training for all staff working on or near the water, an increased staff to student ratio, and new equipment. New features of the program content included more active-learning programs for older children, family snorkeling adventures, and the Naturalist Leadership Program for 13-15 year olds.

This summer, we had 246 total families participate in the 2012 *Discovery Program* Classes filling 539 spots, 98% of the total capacity. Twenty-six percent of the students were year-round Nantucket residents. MMA was again able to offer a 50% discount for all Discovery Program classes to island residents and EGCF, a non-profit organization based out of Southern Connecticut, again provided scholarship to reduce the cost of each class by 80% of the membership rate. Twenty-five children participated in this program; an increase of fourteen children over the first year of the program. The Discovery staff promoted MMA and the *Discovery* program by staffing a table at the Farmer’s Market on several weekends. The interns provided activities, as well as MMA information, which proved to be a great opportunity for recruitment to the Discovery Program, as well, as providing exposure for the Museum, Aquarium, Mitchell House and the Observatories. The new Family Snorkel Tours had 54 participants over six weeks.

The Mitchell House *Junior Historians* classes included a “Nantucket Girls” class, a class on crafting kaleidoscopes and bubble blowers to teach about optics, a class on the Wampanoag, and one on tinsmithing. The Mitchell House also offered several private and family classes.

Mitchell House teamed up with other organizations and professional conservators to host several workshops. These offerings included a Behind-the-Scenes tour of Mitchell House focusing on its conservation and its architecture, the “Anatomy of a Fireplace,” a women's history walking tour in March, and the very popular Four Centuries Domestic Walking Tour. Three hundred nine individuals participated in Mitchell House programs and workshops in 2012.
Tours of the Mitchell House, known for the special characteristic of catering to the visitor’s interest in architecture, historic preservation, or the Mitchell Family, are frequently the first contact many visitors have with the Maria Mitchell Association. This personal and intimate type of tour is now a growing trend in historic house museums - and MMA has been offering this service for decades! Seven hundred and eleven individuals took the Mitchell House tour in 2012.

Members and friends also learn about the natural world of Nantucket through bird walks in collaboration with the Linda Loring Nature Foundation, insect, spider, and wildflower walks (93 attendees) marine ecology walks (821), beach combing walks (61) and Stargazing Nights at the Loines Observatory (672). The Observatory also offered a special program for the Transit of Venus observation in June (50) as well as four meteor shower observations in the late summer and fall (100).

Attendance remained fairly steady, with some notable increases over 2011 at the Aquarium and the Natural Science Museum. A strategic decision to eliminate an admission fee at the Museum led to a significant increase in attendance and revenue was made up through charging for special Museum programs such as “Carnivorous Critters” and “Meet the Animals” held at regularly scheduled times during the week. The 2012 attendance figures are: Aquarium (6825), Natural Science Museum (2959), Mitchell House (711) and the Vestal Street Observatory (90). Three hundred thirty eight (338) people attend the programs and walks offered in the off-season by the Natural Science Museum. Program topics included Origami, Fruitful Electricity, “Snakes!,” Bone CSI, Mechanical Mayhem, NanoDays and Nantucket Ambles. The Natural Sciences Department also led five marine walks for the Great Harbor Yacht Club day camp during the summer months.

This year’s summer learning workshop in collaboration with other conservation organizations focused on Light Pollution and Nantucket’ Dark Skies. The evening event featured the film, *The City Dark*, about the impact of light pollution on the night skies, migratory animals and human beings; included an overview of the Nantucket By-Law on Light Pollution (2006 Annual Town Meeting); and a demonstration of appropriate lighting fixtures that comply with the Light Pollution Ordinance. The Maria Mitchell Association co-sponsored the evening with The Nantucket Atheneum, the Nantucket Planning and Economic Development Commission, the Linda Loring Nature Foundation, the Nantucket Conservation Foundation, the Nantucket Land Council, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

MMA offered field trips and classes to on- and off-island groups. Several classes from the Nantucket Elementary School, the Nantucket Boys and Girls Club, the Nantucket High School, The Children’s House, and The Nantucket Lighthouse School joined MMA staff to learn about life cycles, habitats, the solar system, trees, snakes, spiders, vernal pools, and animal adaptations. Off-island schools included the Waldorf School of Belmont, New York School of Interior Design, Connecticut College, Rhode Island School of Design, Preservation Institute: Nantucket, New Canaan Country Day School, Cardigan Mountain School, and The Grammar School of Putney, Vermont. These students worked with MMA staff from the different departments to learn about astronomy, the natural sciences, and history.

Mitchell House Curator, Jascin Leonardo Finger, continued her work with Nantucket Elementary School third graders with her unit on Mitchell and the Mitchell Family. The project was supported with a grant from the Community Foundation of Nantucket. Jascin L. Finger and Janet E. Schulte, Executive Director, each offered a program to the Nantucket High School’s class on Nantucket History in the Spring and Fall of 2012. Finger discussed the role of a Curator and information about Maria Mitchell and gave a women’s history walking tour of Nantucket Town to the students. Schulte discussed the role of an Executive Director in a museum/non-profit and the day-to-day activities of a science center.

Students from Worcester Polytechnic Institute lived at the Maria Mitchell Association in Fall 2012 as part of their “Interactive Qualifying” course in their program of study. The students were divided into teams to conduct research projects for different island organizations. One team of students conducted a study for MMA and other Island non-profits titled “The Economic Impact of Nantucket’s Cultural Corridor.” The students interviewed staff and analyzed financial data from several island organizations to ascertain the economic impact of six organizations: Maria Mitchell
Association, Nantucket Historical Association, Nantucket Atheneum, Dreamland Theater, and Artists Association of Nantucket – each of which has a prominent facility in downtown Nantucket. Representatives from the Nantucket Island Chamber of Commerce and the Visitors’ Bureau also participated in the project.

Citizen Science Projects invite members and friends to become active participants in the MMA’s ongoing research projects. Citizen scientists of all ages joined osprey and barn owl banding trips, the American burying beetle expeditions, and Horseshoe crab surveys. Volunteers also worked in the Observatory to assist with data reduction, observations, technology upgrades, and ongoing maintenance of the telescopes. And, one special volunteer, Maris Humphreys is cataloging the Nantucket Biodiversity Library.

ENJOY

The special events and relationships we celebrate

The 2012 Annual Birdathon held on May 11 and 12, 2012 identified 140 species of birds and raised funds to support the Ornithology Intern’s work on the Edith F. Andrews Ornithological Collection.

The 2012 Annual Meeting was held at 33 Washington Street site on June 8, 2012. John Daniels, Chair of the MMA Washington Street Building Committee, gave an overview of the plans for the facility which was followed by a reading by Peter Brace, author of the 2012 volume, Nantucket: A Natural History. Reports from the President, Treasurer, Chair of the Nominating Committee and Executive Director were also given.

An Evening with the Stars, MMA’s annual fundraising gala was held on Sunday, July 8, 2012 at Sankaty Head Golf Club. Centerbrook Architect’s carefully rendered model of the new Science Center was a feature of the evening. John Daniels, Janet Schulte and Marsha Fader, Project Manager for the Washington Street building project, answered guests’ questions and demonstrated the model to dozens of guests at the event. A special thank you to the Gala Committee who makes sure the event is top drawer and to the many Gala Sponsors whose financial support makes the Gala such a celebratory and outstanding event. The evening featured a silent auction with items ranging from cocktail cruises to lightship baskets to private star parties. More than 200 people attended the Gala which raised funds to support MMA’s research, education, and public outreach efforts.
Maria Mitchell’s Birthday Celebration: August 1st  The annual celebration of Maria Mitchell’s birthday included games and activities led by the Natural Science Department interns, an appearance by the Martian Cat and skits by the Astronomy REU interns, free tours of the Mitchell House, Observatory and the Natural Science Museum, a small touch tank from the Aquarium, the annual exhibit of Maria Mitchell’s Gold Medal, and a special pilgrimage by the summer staff to Maria’s gravesite following the day’s festivities.

Sconset Walks featuring the neighborhood’s birds, wildflower, and geology led by Andrew Mckenna-Foster for members of the ‘Sconset Trust continued into their sixth season.

MMA staffed a table at three of the Saturday morning Farmer’s Markets organized by Sustainable Nantucket. The team’s mission was to educate and spread awareness about what lives in Nantucket Harbor. Environmental Education interns brought mobile touch tanks filled with whelks, hermit crabs, spider crabs, moon snails and shells. The team also brought animal artifacts from the Natural Science Museum for adults and children to see and hold including whelk egg cases and horseshoe crab exoskeletons.

MMA has expanded its technological touch to its members and friends through an improved presence on the website and through Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest and the blog, “Maria Mitchell’s Attic.” During the fall months, the staff worked on designing a new user-friendly web-site with plans for its launch in February 2013. Whitney Morris, Director of Education, led the charge to re-organize the web-site and the staff duly followed her able and creative lead. Be sure to check out the new web-site at www.mariamitchell.org.

MMA provided a touch tank for the Nantucket Maritime Festival sponsored by ReMain Nantucket and Egan Maritime Institute in September. MMA also planned to staff three touch tanks during the Nantucket Cottage Hospital’s annual Pop Concert. The event was cancelled due to predicted thunderstorms. We hope to be able to offer the service in 2013.

The first annual Paddle Battle – a race for kayakers and stand-up paddle boarders, was held on Saturday, October 13, 2012 in collaboration with the Nantucket Land Council. Twenty-two racers participated in the event designed to raise awareness about water quality in Nantucket Harbor.
The annual **winter holiday reception** held each December was a joyful event attended by 38 of our fabulous volunteers.

Little known to our members and friends, one of the job responsibilities for each MMA staff member is to volunteer in the community. MMA staff offer their time and talents to a variety of island organizations including The Nantucket Lighthouse School, The Montessori Children’s House, Habitat for Humanity, One Book One Island, the Nantucket Public Schools, Prescribed Fire Crew, Autism Speaks, Historic Structures Advisory Board, Credit for Life Fair, the Nantucket Island Chamber of Commerce, and the Clean Team. Two staff members serve in elected positions in Nantucket Town Government.

**IN MEMORIAM**

**Emilia “Lee” Pisano Belserene, Ph.D.**

Former MMA astronomer and director of the observatory, Lee Belserene passed away on December 11, 2012, just one day shy of her 90th birthday. She served as the MMA’s astronomer and director of the Observatory from September 1978 through September 1991. She was a Life Member of the MMA. Lee’s work continued on the past focus of both Margaret Harwood and E. Dorrit Hoffleit, MMO’s previous directors, that of variable stars. But Lee was also instrumental in modernizing the observatory – bringing in the first computer – and extending the research season both because she resided on Nantucket year-round and was also able to collaborate with Earthwatch. She began the astronomy classes for children which were initially funded by a bequest of her predecessor, Margaret Harwood. Under her careful eye, the lens of the main telescope was improved as was the process for creating the glass plates of the night sky at the MMO. She photographed the return of Halley’s Comet from the MMO Observatory in 1986 and it was under her tenure that the new addition was built onto the observatory providing much needed space for the astronomy students with new computer and seminar spaces. And of course, besides her dedication to astronomy, Lee was famous for her delicious fried daylily buds and elderflower fritters which many remember to this day! She leaves a daughter, Rita, of Bainbridge Island, Washington.
Clarissa Penny Porter

On December 23, 2012, the Mitchell House and the MMA lost a dear friend, supporter, and volunteer. Clarissa P. Porter was a champion of the Mitchell House and historic preservation and an enthusiastic fan of Maria Mitchell. She was tireless in her support of the Mitchell House’s conservation and one of the founding members of the Maria Mitchell Women in Science Award (MMWISA) Committee, serving as a juror and ensuring the development of the award. She was an Honorary Member of the MMA. Numerous non-profits here on Nantucket and elsewhere have benefitted from her enthusiasm and enduring support and some would not exist if not for her unflagging energy and volunteerism. She was a teacher, a mentor, a volunteer, a supporter, a wife and mother and grandmother who had boundless amounts of energy, love, and support for all who knew her and wherever she was involved. She will be missed – but she has made each person richer for knowing her.
Thank you for your generosity! Your gifts to the Annual Appeal, an Evening with the Stars Gala, membership, and special campaigns and gifts allow MMA to continue a legacy of exploration, education, and research. We are especially grateful to the members of the Maria Mitchell Circle who provide leadership support in their annual giving.

**Membership** in the Maria Mitchell Association brings you into the heart of MMA’s activities and programs to explore and learn about the unique and special marine, terrestrial, and celestial “habitats” of Nantucket. Annual Members provide important unrestricted gifts to support our programs. The benefits enjoyed by our members include: discounts on classes, programs and workshops; invitations to join our citizen science research activities; free admission to the Natural Science Museum, the Aquarium, the Mitchell House, Vestal Street Observatory tours, and Stargazing Nights at Loines Observatory; a 10% discount in the museum shops; and a subscription to the E-comet newsletter. For a complete list of 2012 members, please contact the MMA at (508) 228-9198.

There are many ways to give to MMA. Please consider the MMA in your estate plans with a bequest, a gift of stock, mutual funds, securities, IRAs, or other retirement plans; or with a gift of cash, a gift in-kind, or a matching gift from your business/employer. You may choose to support a specific program or department or give an unrestricted gift which can be directed to where it is most needed. We are happy to discuss the options with you. Please contact us at (508) 228-9198.

We strive for accuracy in this list. If your name has been omitted or listed incorrectly, please let us know at (508) 228-9198.

**2012 ANNUAL APPEAL**

**$25,000**  
Caren Lambert and Charles Ryan

**$10,000**  
Fidelity Charitable Trust  
Mr. and Mrs. Amos Hostetter

**$5,000**  
William C. Cox (Cox Foundation, Inc.)

**$2,500 - $4,999**  
H. Crowell Freeman  
Deb and Peter Manus  
Ronay and Richard Menschel  
Joan and Michael Nelson  
Joseph Seiger  
(The Seiger Family Foundation)  
Susan and John Weatherley

**$1,000 - $2,499**  
Mr. and Mrs. Harrington Bischof  
Mr. and Mrs. J. Stewart Bryan  
Catherine and John Cathey  
Gretchen and Gordon Cooney  
Anne and Dennis Cross  
Laura DeBonis and Scott Nathan  
Barbara and James Duffy  
The Honorable and Mrs. William Frist  
Nan and Charles Geschke  
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Johnson  
Paul Judy (Judy Family Foundation)  
Margaret and Terry Lenzer  
Mr. and Mrs. Jack Leonardo  
Grace and Ken Logan  
Karen and Malcolm MacNab  
Toni and Martin McKerrow  
Tracey and Greg Morzano
Suzanne and Carl Mueller
Kathryn and Roger Penske
Lorraine Snell
The Gilbert Verney Foundation
Helene and Tim Weld

$500 - $999
Allison and John Beadles
Carol and Jay Bowditch
Penny and Robert Fox
Susan and Henry Johnson
Julie Kaufman
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Sarah and R. Fredric Knauft
Janet and Christopher Larsen
Judy and John MacLeod
Polly Thayer and G. Nicholas Miller
Margaret Mitchell
Rev. Georgia Ann Snell
Janet E. Schulte
Elaine Schwartz
Denise and Robert Schwed
The Thornburg Foundation
Michael Trimpi
Suellen Ward and John Copenhaver

$250-$499
Michael Altman
Carol and Eugene Atkinson Family Foundation
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Madaket Marine
Barbara Malcolm
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Permits Plus, Inc.
Melissa and Nathaniel Philbrick
Margaret and Phillip Read
Elizabeth and Geoffrey Verney
Isabella Wagley
Carolyn Wells and Frank White

$100-$249
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Ann and Norman Asher
Bolder Books
Barbara Bund
Bonnie Buratti
Eileen and Robert Butler
Monica and Peter Campanella
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Sanford Kendall
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Judy and Edwin Leonard
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Thomas Loring
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Pamela and Eugene McGuire
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Robert Perkin
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Roger Roux
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Landey Strongin
Caroline and Luke Thornewill
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Nancy and Charles Walters
Susan and Warren Stern
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Our Galaxy of Support

Michael Wodynski
Sue and Michael Young
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Up to $100
Jessica Alm
Constance and Frank Anderson
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Harriet and Robert Noyes
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Christine and Richard Ouren
Joanna Rankin
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Mr. and Mrs. Eric Stone
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Jacqueline Tullo
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Mrs. Roger C. Ward
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Ronay and Richard Menschel
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Nantucket Hotel and Resorts
Nantucket Island Resorts
Nantucket Shellfish Association
Joan and Michael Nelson
Kathryn and Roger Penske
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Schmidt Family Foundation
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Bebe Archibald Poor, D.V.M.

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Nantucket Looms

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Marcia and Bruce Fowle

In Honor of Andrew Mckenna-Foster
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Robert and Barbara Erskine
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Terry Lenzner
John and Jane Loose
Malcolm and Karen MacNab
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Eileen Rudden and Josh Posner
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David Lambert
Peter and Bonnie McCausland
Tony and Anne McCullough
Nantucket Golf Club Foundation
Al and Mary Novissimo
Michele and David Rubinstein
Wilson Foundation

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U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Roger Williams Park Zoo
Nantucket Conservation Foundation
Nantucket Land Bank
Massachusetts Audubon Society

Astronomy
National Science Foundation – Research Experience for Undergraduates
American Astronomical Society
Massachusetts Space Grant Consortium (MASGC)
Margaret Doleman
James and Martha Hanner
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Deborah Holt
The Kenneth and Hazel Roe Foundation

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Linda Loring Nature Foundation
Nantucket Conservation Foundation
Nantucket Planning and Economic Development Commission
Nantucket Land Council, Inc.
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

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Nantucket Golf Club

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M.S. Worthington Foundation
Boston Foundation: Dillon Fund
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Nantucket Shellfish Association
National Science Foundation – Research Experience for Undergraduates
Richard Coyle Lilly Foundation
Shellfish and Harbor Advisory Board
US Fish and Wildlife Service

GIFTS TO THE COLLECTIONS OF THE MARIA MITCHELL ASSOCIATION
The Mitchell House, Archives and Special Collections accepted several gifts in 2012:
Joan Manley: photographs of functions
at MMA Library and MMA events while under the tenure of MMA Librarian, Jane Stroup

Hebert Frerichs: *Maria Mitchell and the Sexing of Science*, by Renee Bergland

Kathryn Pochman: Four books for Special Collections: *Daughters of America* by Phebe Coffin Hanaford (1883); *Noted Women of Europe and America* by James Parton (1883); *Two Steps Down* by Alice Albertson Shurrocks (1953); *The Moon* by Amedee FGuillemin from the series *Marvels of Nature, Science, and Art* edited by Maria Mitchell (1873).

**The Natural Science Department was the recipient of several gifts in 2012:**

Patton Family: A 16’ Whaler and boat trailer

Crawford Patton: Octopus for display in the Aquarium

NOAA Office of Law Enforcement: Juvenile Humpback Whale Skull (NOAA accession E1200244)


Marsha Fader: Bausch and Lomb Stereoscope and Light Source

Sandy Spencer, Martin McKerrow: Birdhouse Camera Set Up

Herb and Miriam Mittenthal: Tires for the Truck
The Nantucket Maria Mitchell Association
Statement of Financial Position
December 31, 2012

### Assets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash and cash equivalents</td>
<td>$600,892</td>
<td>$531,147</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inventories</td>
<td>2,878</td>
<td>2,878</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pledges receivables</td>
<td>922,621</td>
<td>1,152,092</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other receivables</td>
<td>4,421</td>
<td>4,335</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments</td>
<td>3,412,418</td>
<td>3,290,457</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beneficial interest in real estate trust</td>
<td>318,000</td>
<td>318,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Remainder interest in property</td>
<td>455,780</td>
<td>429,360</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred expenses</td>
<td>7,271</td>
<td>7,271</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Property, plant, and equipment, net</strong></td>
<td><strong>4,975,085</strong></td>
<td><strong>5,808,324</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>$10,689,366</strong></td>
<td><strong>$10,815,864</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Liabilities and Net Assets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accounts payable and accrued liabilities</td>
<td>$ 65,091</td>
<td>$ 76,286</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Note payable</td>
<td>16,238</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total liabilities</strong></td>
<td><strong>81,329</strong></td>
<td><strong>76,286</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Net assets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unrestricted</td>
<td>6,537,909</td>
<td>6,632,675</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temporarily restricted</td>
<td>2,141,489</td>
<td>2,178,264</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permanently restricted</td>
<td>1,928,639</td>
<td>1,928,639</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total net assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>10,608,037</strong></td>
<td><strong>10,739,578</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total assets** | **$10,689,366** | **$10,815,864**
## The Nantucket Maria Mitchell Association
### Statement of Activities
#### Year ended December 31, 2012

#### Operating activities: Revenue and support

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Unrestricted</th>
<th>Temporarily Restricted</th>
<th>Permanently Restricted</th>
<th>Totals 2012</th>
<th>2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Programs</td>
<td>$219,749</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$219,749</td>
<td>$180,408</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Admissions</td>
<td>38,156</td>
<td>38,156</td>
<td>35,495</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Museum Shop</td>
<td>18,135</td>
<td>18,135</td>
<td>20,509</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Memberships</td>
<td>65,694</td>
<td>65,694</td>
<td>84,460</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants</td>
<td>2,500</td>
<td>76,571</td>
<td>154,149</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
<td>135,575</td>
<td>72,000</td>
<td>154,524</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special events</td>
<td>113,505</td>
<td>113,505</td>
<td>131,398</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment return designated for operations</td>
<td>255,000</td>
<td>255,000</td>
<td>228,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rental income</td>
<td>36,370</td>
<td>36,370</td>
<td>34,995</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest income</td>
<td>1,688</td>
<td>1,688</td>
<td>2,122</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net assets released from restriction</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Satisfaction of program restrictions</td>
<td>77,867</td>
<td>(77,867)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Satisfaction of capital-related activities</td>
<td>378,075</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>378,075</td>
<td>190,589</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total revenue and support</td>
<td>1,342,314</td>
<td>40,194</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1,382,508</td>
<td>1,216,649</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Expenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Unrestricted</th>
<th>Temporarily Restricted</th>
<th>Permanently Restricted</th>
<th>Totals 2012</th>
<th>2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Program services</td>
<td>1,165,793</td>
<td>1,165,793</td>
<td>1,178,622</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management and general</td>
<td>243,148</td>
<td>243,148</td>
<td>161,763</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Development</td>
<td>150,100</td>
<td>150,100</td>
<td>96,392</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total expenses</td>
<td>1,559,041</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1,559,041</td>
<td>1,436,777</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change in net assets from operating activities</td>
<td>(216,727)</td>
<td>40,194</td>
<td>(176,533)</td>
<td>(220,128)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Non-operating activities:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Unrestricted</th>
<th>Temporarily Restricted</th>
<th>Permanently Restricted</th>
<th>Totals 2012</th>
<th>2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Investment return, less amounts designated for operations</td>
<td>121,961</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>121,961</td>
<td>(198,467)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions and grants restricted for capital activities</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>284,686</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>284,686</td>
<td>1,468,054</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donation of remainder interest in property</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>16,420</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>16,420</td>
<td>16,420</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net assets released from restriction</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(378,075)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(378,075)</td>
<td>(190,589)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Satisfaction of capital restrictions</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(76,969)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>44,992</td>
<td>1,095,118</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change in net assets from non-operating activities</td>
<td>121,961</td>
<td>(36,775)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(131,541)</td>
<td>874,990</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change in net assets</td>
<td>(94,766)</td>
<td>(36,775)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(131,541)</td>
<td>874,990</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net assets, beginning of year</td>
<td>6,532,675</td>
<td>2,178,264</td>
<td>10,739,578</td>
<td>9,864,588</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net assets, end of year</td>
<td>$6,537,909</td>
<td>$2,141,489</td>
<td>$10,608,037</td>
<td>$10,739,578</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The financial statements for 2012 have been audited by Bollus & Lynch, LLP, who have rendered an unqualified opinion on them. Complete financial statements are available on request.
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Term Expires
2013 Patricia L.R. Brennan, PhD
John L. Daniels
Deborah Manus
2014 Caren Lambert, PhD
Toni B. McKeerrow
Mary Archibald (Bebe) Poor, DVM
Edward Symes III
Howard N. Blitman
Dennis Cross
Malcolm W. MacNab, MD, PhD
Eileen Rudden
2015 Patty Gibian
Michael Nelson
Anne Parks Strain
2016 Judith G. MacLeod
Helene M. Weld

MMA STAFF

Administration
Janet E. Schulte, PhD, Executive Director
Patricia Roggeveen, MA, Director of Development and Campaign Counsel
Isabella Wagley, Marketing and Development Associate
Joan Alison Stockman, Financial Administrator
Scott Leonard, Property Manager
Elizabeth G. Grubbs, Carvin Associates, Development Consultant

Astronomy
Vladimir Strelnitski, PhD, Director of Astronomy
Nancy Strelnitski, Observatory Assistant
Gary Walker, MS, Telescope Engineer and Astronomer

Education
Whitney Morris, MEd, Summer Education Director

Mitchell House
Jascin Leonardo Finger, MA, Curator

Natural Sciences
Andrew Mckenna-Foster, MS, Director of Natural Science Education and Programs
Robert S. Kennedy, PhD, Senior Research Fellow
Edith F. Andrews, MS, Ornithologist Emerita
Valerie A. Hall, Research Associate
Peter B. Boyce, PhD, Research Associate
Cheryl Comeau Beaton, Director, Maria Mitchell Aquarium
W. Forrest Kennedy, BS, Aquarium Advisor

2012 INTERNS

Astronomy (NSF-Research Experience for Undergraduates)
Caroline Bartlett (Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts)
Prachi Parihar (Princeton University)
Brian Pomerantz (Cornell University)
Evan Rule (Johns Hopkins University)
Benjamin Schultz (SUNY-Plattsburgh)
Renee Spiwak (University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee)

Aquarium
Correna Blewett, Aquarium Manager
(University of Rhode Island, MBA candidate)
Emily Greer (BA, St. Lawrence University)
Luke Cadrin (BS, St. Michael’s College)
Melissa Merritt (Unity College)
Ryan Flannery (Kutztown University)

**Lead Environmental Education Instructors**
Mackenzie Betrone-Harpst (BA, Flagler College)
Kristen Conroy (Elon University)
Elliott Lustig (Brandeis University)
Stephen McCloskey (BA, Georgia College and State University)
Emily Parker (Elon University)
Daniel Sidder (BA, Colorado State University)
Grace Van Huffel (Eckerd College)

**Marketing/Merchandising**
Lauren Fisher (University of Massachusetts – Amherst)

**MMA Marine Science Intern**
Andrew Flax (Sidwell Friends School)
Liana Greenberg (Donna Kein Jewish Academy)
Ned Manus (Brimmer and May School)
Christine Seibert (Cornerstone Christian Academy)

**Mitchell House**
Victoria Schmidt-Scheuber, (AB, Mount Holyoke College)

**Natural Science Museum**
Julia Blyth, Collections and Exhibit Manager (BA, Ohio Wesleyan University)
Joshua Morse (BA, Oberlin College)

**VOLUNTEERS**

**Astronomy**
Jordan Concannon Bledsoe
Tom Calderwood
Robert Fronk
Nikolay Nakov (NPS)
Alan Sliski

**Assistant Education Instructors**
Tristan Ballard
Sarah Coomey
Jennifer Flanagan

Jayne Gotham
Olivia Gotham
Anne Jennings
James Jennings
Harriet Ketchen
Finn Kusler
Alex Libman
Anne MacLeod
Spencer Morrow
Nick Panchy
Olivia Slade
Sydney Panchy
Grace Sullivan
Ben Wolfson
Jonah Wolfson
Lila Wolfson

**Discovery Program Volunteers**
Ella Griffiths
Isabella Morzani

**Mitchell House**
Patricia Michaelson, Ph.D., Tour Guide
Marie Humphries, Rare Book Cataloger

**Natural Science**
Marcia Aguilar Ornithology
Ginger Andrews Ornithology
Madison Beck Scallops
Kenneth T. Blackshaw Ornithology
Lauren Blyth Scallops
Claudia Butler Scallops
Leah Cabral Scallops
Helen Chang Scallops
Dominic Costanzo Scallops
Charley Eisman Scallops
Allison Gaylor-Loy Scallops
Nancy Giragosian Administration
Ian Golding Scallops
Vall Hall Scallops
Maris Humphreys Scallops
Susan Kervin Scallops
Jake Kritzer Scallops
Scott Leonard Scallops
Erik Lokensgard Scallops
Ben Wolfson Scallops
Oliver Long Scallops

**Biodiversity Library**

**Origami Program**

**Scallops**

**Horseshoe Crabs**

**Insect Research & Museum Programs**
COLLABORATIONS
The Maria Mitchell Association is proud to establish collaborations with other non-profit organizations and universities to offer the best in programs and to conduct research vital to understanding and preserving Nantucket’s natural areas and unique natural history. Our collaborating organizations are:

American Association of Variable Star Observers
Artists Association of Nantucket
Our collaborating researchers are:

**Natural Sciences:**
- Tara M. Riley, Nantucket Town Shellfish Biologist
- Stephen Heck, Nantucket Town Shellfish Biology intern
- Mae Taylor, Nantucket Town Shellfish Biology Intern
- Ian Evans, Nantucket Town Shellfish Biology Intern
- Dr. Brad Stevens, University of Massachusetts – Dartmouth, SMST
- Dr. Rob O. Bierregaard, University of North Carolina – Charlotte
- Lou Perrotti, Roger Williams Park Zoo
- Dr. Anthony Tur, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- Dr. Steve Estabrooks
- Dr. Vin Malkoski, Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries
- Dr. Sarah Oktay, University of Massachusetts – Boston, Nantucket Field Station
- Karen Beattie, Nantucket Conservation Foundation
- Dr. Jennifer Karberg, Nantucket Conservation Foundation
- Danielle O’Dell, Nantucket Conservation Foundation
- Kelly Omand, Nantucket Conservation Foundation
- Scott Smyers, Oxbow Associates, Inc.
- Dr. Paul Goldstein, National Museum of Natural History
- Sherrie Floyde, New England Aquarium
Jason Bridges, Nantucket Bike Tours

**Astronomy:**
Professor John Bieging  
Dr. Leslie Brown  
Professor Sergei Gulyaev  
Professor Abraham Loeb  
Dr. Svetlana Jorstad  
Dr. Alan Marscher  
Dr. Alan Smith

**ASSOCIATION PRESIDENTS**
1902-1911 Mary W. Whitney  
1912-1914 Mrs. Wilfred Lewis  
1915-1926 Ellen Folsom  
1927-1929 Alice M. Howland  
1930-1946 Margaret U. Davis  
1947-1948 Charles Neal Barney  
1949-1953 Margaret U. Davis  
1954-1959 Charles G. Snow  
1960-1962 Edouard A. Stackpole  
1963-1973 B.F.D. Runk, PhD  
1974-1980 Alfred Bornemann, DEng  
1981-1989 Jane W. Merrill  
1990-1991 Robert K. Noyes  
1992-1994 Robert W. Noyes, PhD  
1995-2000 Daniel W. Drake  
2001-2007 Judith F. Lee  
2007-2010 Toni B. McKerrow  
2010- Malcolm W. MacNab, MD, PhD