

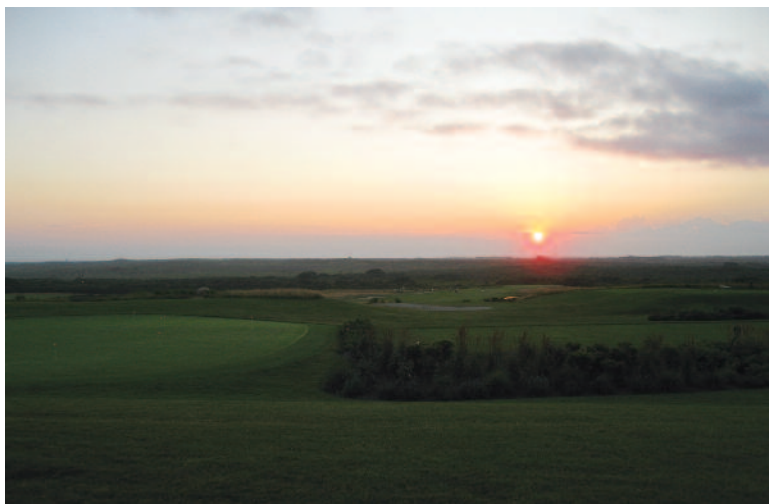
**Maria  
Mitchell**  
Association

# Maria Mitchell Association Annual Report 2013



4 Vestal Street. Nantucket, MA, 02554 508.228.9198  
[www.mariamitchell.org](http://www.mariamitchell.org)





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.

# Letter from the President

## Letter from the President

Dear Members and Friends:

Thank you for your generosity this past year.



John L. Daniels  
President, MMA Board of Managers

The gifts you make to the Maria Mitchell Association allow us to accomplish all that you will read about on the pages that follow. Whether it's our summer camps, school outreach, community programs or research, we know that we could not do any of it without your support. As we embark on our strategic planning process, 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. We are excited to share with you our plans for our Vestal and Washington Street campuses in the coming months.

Finally, I want to acknowledge my fellow Board members, MMA's dedicated staff, and our many interns and volunteers who do outstanding work for the Association day in and day out. Thanks to all of you for your exceptional contributions.

Warmest thanks,

John L. Daniels  
President, MMA Board of Directors

# Letter from the Executive Director

## Letter from the Executive Director

To our Members and Friends:

One hundred and eleven years ago, students of Maria Mitchell from Vassar College and members of the Mitchell Family established the Maria Mitchell Association at One Vestal Street on Nantucket. Over the past century-plus, MMA has focused on the exploration and enjoyment of the natural world of Nantucket. From observing the pristine dark skies, to marine walks in Madaket Harbor, and field trips to Sankaty Head with local school children, the programs and activities we offer are rooted in the legacy of Maria Mitchell – teacher, scientist, and mentor. Our walks, talks, tours, and events feature hands-on learning, guided by knowledgeable staff and interns, and fueled by the spark of curiosity of our members, friends and guests. It is this rich tradition of discovery, learning, exploration, and observation that grounds all of the planning and evaluation we do to insure that your experience of MMA is a meaningful one.



Janet E. Schulte, Ph.D.  
Executive Director

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 treasures 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

# Explore, Educate, Enjoy: The Annual Report of the Maria Mitchell Association

## HIGHLIGHTS OF 2013



This past year, MMA welcomed Dr. Michael West as Director of Astronomy and awarded Dr. Vladimir Strelinski the title of Director Emeritus of the Maria Mitchell Observatory. The transition between the two scientists was smooth and productive, leading ultimately to the successful proposal to the National Science Foundation (NSF) to continue the MMA Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) Program in Astronomy for four more years. This is a remarkable

achievement given the recent cuts in funding to the NSF for research and education grants. MMA is truly proud to have attracted such a world caliber astronomer as Dr. West to Nantucket. His presence ensures the continued growth and evolution of our award-winning astronomy programs.

In 2013, MMA reached more people than ever before. In the Education Department, the Summer *Discovery* camp hit new enrollment highs and added the very popular Family Snorkeling program with the Aquarium staff. The program included tours led by an Aquarium and Educations interns at Jetties Beach where participants are able to get an up-close experience with the marine life.

Attendance figures for 2013 include Aquarium visits (7618), Natural Science Museum visits (3464), Mitchell House visits (672), the Vestal Street Observatory visits (269), and Stargazing Nights (1444). Two hundred eighteen (218) people attended the programs and walks offered in the off-season by the Natural Science Museum and another 770 children and adults participated in programs offered in collaboration with other island organizations or in private programs.

### 2012 and 2013 Attendance Comparison

	2013	2012
Aquarium	7618	6825
Natural Science Museum	3464	2959
Mitchell House	672	711
Vestal Street Observatory	269	90
Loines Stargazing Nights	1444	672

MMA staffed a table at five 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. New Youth Volunteer Program participants also assisted at the Farmer's Market table by collecting animals, conducting demonstrations, and answering questions of passers-by.

Work continues on the upgrade of the former Science Library. In September, 2013, the cement tile roof was cleaned and coated. Funded by a Community Preservation Act grant, the roof work and work to be done on the stucco walls will make a significant improvement in the look of our Vestal Street campus.



Most importantly, MMA initiated important strategic planning work with consultant group TDC that is being funded by a Massachusetts Cultural Facilities Grant. The discussions and decisions that will emerge from this process will set a strong course for MMA moving forward and lay the groundwork for future projects. Though it does mean a delay in the new science center planning and building, the MMA Board of Directors made a commitment to embark on this process to better position themselves for future capital projects. Said MMA Board Chair, John Daniels, *'Analyzing our current and future needs and creating a strong organization will give MMA a strong foundation on which to build its future.'*

## **EXPLORE: Research and Collections**

All MMA departments maintained an active research agenda in 2013 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 listed below. For additional information, please call 508.228.9198 and we would be glad to send you a copy of the department specific report that interests you. These detailed reports are submitted to the Executive Director of MMA each year and provide details on the research projects, conference presentations, and publications of the departments' staff.

### **ASTRONOMY**

- The Astronomy Department hosted six summer REU interns who worked with Director, Dr. Michael West, as well as with a "virtual" astronomer. Five astronomers from universities across the United States and Canada assisted in the supervision of the REU student research both remotely and through a visit to Nantucket. Each visiting astronomer also delivered a public lecture. Five of the six students presented at the annual meeting of the American Astronomical Society in Washington, DC.
- The 24-inch telescope at Loines Observatory continues to be an invaluable tool for research, education and public outreach. Despite unusually cloudy skies over Nantucket this past summer, REU students made important observations of





cannibal galaxies during summer 2013, pushing the telescope to its limits and developing their skills as observational astronomers. In November 2013, a request was submitted to the National Science Foundation for funds to purchase a new high-tech instrument for the telescope called an echelle spectrograph; currently we are still awaiting NSF's decision. Additionally, the telescope was fitted with an eyepiece for the first time, making it one of the largest publicly accessible telescopes in the eastern United States.

- Dr. Michael West published four research papers in collaboration with other astronomers from around the world on the subjects of galaxies and star clusters in the field of astronomy's leading peer-reviewed journals. He also supervised two doctoral students, and was awarded coveted telescope time at Keck, the European Southern Observatory in La Silla, Chile, and the Australian Astronomical Observatory. Dr. West also presented at the Communicating Astronomy with the Public International Conference in Warsaw, Poland and the American Astronomical Society Annual Meeting. He did additional original research for two articles that he published in the new Sound Magazine, one titled "Spyhoppers and Stargazers: Can Whales See the Stars?" and the other titled "Wampanoag Sky: Language, Loss and the Light of Dead Stars."

## **NATURAL SCIENCES**

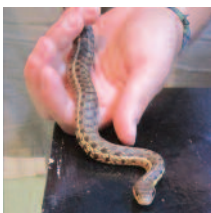
Natural Sciences Department staff actively worked on 12 research projects in 2013.

- In collaboration with the Roger Williams Park Zoo (Providence RI), Nantucket Conservation Foundation, Massachusetts Audubon Society, the Nantucket Land Bank, and the UMass Field Station, MMA is studying the population changes of the American burying beetles on Nantucket.
- In collaboration with Oxbow Associates, Inc. (Acton, MA), the Harvard Museum of Comparative Zoology, and Nantucket High School we are continuing fossil collections on the outcrop below the Sankaty Bluff lighthouse. Previously, our research team found several specimens of a brachiopod, a new addition to the collections.
- In cooperation with National Grid, Nantucket Electric, Linda Loring Nature Foundation, Nantucket Conservation Foundation, Nantucket Land Bank, The Trustees of Reservations, and the UMASS Boston Nantucket Field Station, Dr. Bob Kennedy, MMA Senior Research Fellow, is leading the study of the population dynamics and movements of Nantucket Ospreys.





- This year's Barn Owl population spring survey banded 43 young and recaptured 11 adult barn owls in 16 nest boxes. The recaptured adults were banded between 2007 and 2012.
- MMA continued the studies of the wild population of Bay Scallops and the factors that affect their distribution, survival and reproduction in Nantucket waters. Dr. Peter Boyce, MMA Research Associate, diligently continues to raise money and lead this research. This year Nantucket high school students were able to participate in the project and presented their research at two public meetings at 33 Washington Street and for the members of the Nantucket Shellfish Advisory Board.
- Each year, from June to early September, through regularly scheduled Marine Ecology Field trips, MMA conducts an inventory of the marine fishes and invertebrates of Nantucket and Madaket Harbors. In 2013, 56 species of Vertebrates and 67 species of Invertebrates were collected in the waters of Nantucket. A list of the Vertebrates and Invertebrates collected this year is found in the "2013 Annual Report Scientific Collecting Permit No. 146078" submitted to the Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries.
- Funded by a Nantucket Biodiversity Initiative Grant to Scott Smyers of Oxbow Associates, MMA began conducting a multi-year study to collect baseline data on activity periods, habitat use, life history traits, and approximate densities for the snakes of Nantucket. In 2013, we captured 62 snakes from four sites on Nantucket representing three species (garter, ring-necked, and green snakes).
- In June, we conducted a Nightjar survey along a new and modified route from Hoick's Hollow Road to the central Moors. Nightjar surveys consist of taking inventory of the number of whip-poor-wills heard or seen. The total number (7) was reported to the state as part of the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife/Northeast Nightjar Surveys program.
- Roadkill surveys continued and 35 records were submitted to the State for their database. Water snakes, garter snakes, deer, and several birds were all documented and placed on the interactive map on the MMA website.
- MMA conducted surveys of spawning Horseshoe Crabs during full moons and new moons this past May and June. Surveys were conducted at three locations: Warren's Landing, Monomoy Beach and UMass Boston Nantucket Field Station.



# Explore, Educate, Enjoy

- Julia Blyth, Collections Manager, prepared 23 bird specimens for the Edith F. Andrews Ornithological Collection. A total of 53 specimens were accepted for the collection in 2013. Interesting additions include razorbills, Atlantic puffins, and northern saw-whet owls. Ken Blackshaw has been cropping photographs of MMA's ornithological collection and we are linking the images of bird species with the collections list on the website.
- Maris Humphreys works diligently to database all literature, reports, and miscellaneous publications concerning Nantucket County which comprise the "Nantucket Biodiversity Library." She presented her work at the Nantucket Biodiversity Conference on November 2, 2013.

## **MITCHELL HOUSE**

- The Mitchell House is the largest piece in our collection of artifacts and this year it saw quite a bit of activity including the re-shingling of its southern façade and the removal of tar paper that had been added when the building was last re-shingled in the 1960s. By closely examining the nail patterns of the shingles, the carpenters determined that this re-shingling was probably only the third time the southern façade was ever shingled! Mitchell House Curator, Jascin Finger wrote several blogs about the on-going conservation work that can be found at "Maria Mitchell's Attic" on the MMA website, [www.mariamitchell.org](http://www.mariamitchell.org).
- The Mitchell House Curator also continued to work on her research into Nantucket women including the collaborative living arrangements for women on Nantucket in the nineteenth century, and the unique living arrangements known as "Boston marriages."



- This year's Mitchell House intern focused her research on Maria Mitchell's role as the first woman inducted into the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.
- Mitchell House and the Archives and Special Collections received numerous research requests as well as requests to publish images of Maria Mitchell and her family. Capstone

Publishing and the "Farmer's Almanac" were among the publications that included stories and images of Maria Mitchell. The Hudson River Museum and the American Institute of Physics included images and information about Maria in exhibitions, and Maria Mitchell and the Mitchell House were featured in a [Boston Globe](#) article about Amy Brill's novel, *The Movement of Stars*.

- Cleaning and moving of the Special Collection books from the former Science Library was finally completed in the early summer! A long and tedious task, each book was dusted with a brush, vacuumed, wiped, packed into a box and then moved to our new climate-controlled space in Drake Cottage where it was then unpacked and shelved. There are roughly 3,000 volumes in the Special Collections, not including Maria Mitchell's own library. Remaining items in the Archives were also moved, including large format glass slides from the Astronomy Department.

## **EDUCATE: Educational Programs, Public Outreach and Learning Resources**

### **EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS**

- This year's *Discovery* camp saw the addition of the "Island Explorers' Program," a discounted program for Nantucket residents during the last two weeks of June prior to the arrival of many summer residents. Thirty-seven students participated in the program. It was a great opportunity for the Environmental Education visiting interns to connect with island families and learn about some of the island's best outdoor sites from the children who live here.
- MMA had 243 total families participate in the 2013 *Discovery* camp filling 547 spots, 90% of the total capacity. MMA was again able to offer a 25% discount for two 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-one children participated in EGCF program and twenty-seven students took advantage of the Island Family Discount.
- The Astronomy department hosted weekly public lectures during the summer months at the 33 Washington Street location. Participants include visiting astronomers in the REU program as well as astronomers from other universities, NASA, and other organizations.
- This year's summer science learning series included presentations on Erosion Control with representatives from the Nantucket Planning and Land Use Services and the Sconset Bluff Preservation Fund, and Alternative Energy with Massachusetts Secretary of Energy and Environmental Affairs, Rick Sullivan.



- The Astronomy Department developed a series of after-school programs for elementary and middle-school students at the Nantucket Community School. Topics included Space Explorers, Blast Off, Artstronomy, and Robot Explorers.

# Explore, Educate, Enjoy

- Junior Historian classes offered by the Mitchell House staff enrolled 67 children with a wonderful assortment of offerings from candlemaking and tinsmithing to games of the nineteenth century and scrapbooking. Classes were also led on subjects that included Nantucket's remarkable women, the life of girls on 19th century Nantucket, and the island's Wampanoag people.
- Mitchell House returned to the Nantucket Elementary School for the fourth year, working with the entire third grade (approximately 130 children) on a history segment about the life of Maria Mitchell and life on Nantucket in the 19th century.
- Mitchell House teamed up with other organizations and professional conservators to host several workshops in 2013 including an Old House Primer, a Bake Oven demonstration, and a "Behind-the-Scenes" tour of Mitchell house. One hundred twenty people (120) participated in these workshops. The Mitchell House Curator also led four classes at the Nantucket Community School which was part of a larger Nantucket history class being taught through the Community School.
- 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, Stevens College, Connecticut College, Preservation Institute: Nantucket, and New Canaan Country Day School. These students worked with MMA staff from the different departments to learn about astronomy, the natural sciences, and history.



## **PUBLIC OUTREACH**



- More than 3600 members and friends learned about the natural world of Nantucket through MMA's many marine and nature walks and stargazing programs.
- The Astronomy Department also hosted several private stargazing nights for visiting schools, scout troops, and various Nantucket festivals and events. The Natural Sciences Department also led five marine walks for the Great Harbor Yacht Club day camp during the summer months.

- Thanks to the writing productivity of Dr. Michael West, MMA has been raising its profile through articles he has written for the *Inquirer and Mirror*, *Sound* magazine, *Wall Street Journal*, and *USA Today*.
- Mentoring young people and fostering their interest in science is a fundamental value of the MMA. No-one does a better job in this area than Andrew McKenna-Foster, Director of Natural Sciences. In addition to the more than 30 young volunteers at the Aquarium each summer, Andrew also mentors dozens of island youth during the off-season. The volunteers help to care for the menagerie of animals that live with us year-round, assist with some programming, and are working in the Collections identifying spiders and skinning birds.
- Students from Worcester Polytechnic Institute lived at the Maria Mitchell Association in Fall 2013 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.
- MMA provided a touch tank for the Nantucket Maritime Festival sponsored by ReMain Nantucket and Egan Maritime Institute in September.



## **LEARNING RESOURCES**

- In response to many requests MMA developed a volunteer program for children ages 9-12. We had 16 individuals participate in our volunteer programs over six weeks. Volunteers assisted at our Farmer’s Market booth by finding animals to showcase and collecting food to feed our aquarium and museum animals.
- MMA launched a new web site in February 2013 at [www.mariamitchell.org](http://www.mariamitchell.org) and has expanded its reach to members and friends through this improved web presence. In addition, MMA’s Facebook page, e-newsletters and Astro-Alerts, Twitter, Pinterest and the blog, “Maria Mitchell’s Attic” have helped us stay connected to more people than ever before.





## ENJOY: The Special Events and Relationships We Celebrate

- The 2013 Annual Meeting was held at 33 Washington Street site on June 21st. Forty-three (43) MMA members and island residents attended. The membership approved a new set of by-laws for the Maria Mitchell Association. Dr. Michael West gave a presentation on "Plans and Possibilities for Astronomy at MMA." Reports from the President, Treasurer, and Executive Director were also given.



- An Evening with the Stars, MMA's annual fundraising gala was held on Sunday, July 7th at Sankaty Head Golf Club. MMA's new one-minute video was presented to rave reviews. Interns greeted and chatted with guests and explained their summer projects. A special thank you to the Gala Committee members whose hard work make this event so enjoyable and to the many Gala Sponsors whose financial support is integral to the event's success. The evening featured a silent auction with items ranging from a weekend in Charleston to pet portraits and golf

matches. More than 200 people attended the Gala which raised critical funds to support MMA's research, education, and public outreach efforts.



- The annual celebration of Maria Mitchell's birthday on August 1<sup>st</sup> at the Vestal Street campus included games and activities led by the Natural Science Department interns, rocketry and activities 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.
- In June, MMA co-hosted an Author's Breakfast at the Nantucket Book Festival that featured Amy Brill. Ms. Brill is the author of *The Movement of Stars*, a novel inspired by the life of Maria Mitchell.

- Little known to our members and friends, one of the job responsibilities for each MMA staff member is to volunteer in the community and/or their profession. MMA staff offer their time and talents to a variety of organizations including The Nantucket Lighthouse School, The Montessori Children's House, One Book One Island, the Nantucket Public Schools, the International Astronomical Union's Working Group on *New Ways of Communicating Astronomy with the Public*, Massachusetts Space Grant Consortium, Prescribed Fire Crew, Nantucket Shellfish Association, Nantucket Biodiversity Initiative, American Arachnology Society, Nantucket Preservation Awards Committee, New England Museum Association, Association of Science and Technology Centers, National Collaborative of Women's History Sites, Autism Speaks, Historic Structures Advisory Board, Credit for Life Fair, the Nantucket Island Chamber of Commerce, and the Clean Team.





# Our Galaxy of Support

## MEMBERSHIP

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;
- a subscription to the E-comet newsletter.

For a complete list of 2013 members, please contact the MMA at (508) 228-9198.

## OUR GALAXY OF SUPPORT

Thank you for your generosity! Your Membership Dues, gifts to the Annual Appeal, sponsorships of the Evening with the Stars Gala, and donations to special campaigns allow MMA to continue a legacy of exploration, education, and research.

There are many ways to give to MMA. 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 also hope you will consider the MMA in your estate plans with a bequest. Many of our donors provide support through a gift of stocks or securities, or with a matching gift from their employer. For questions, please contact Executive Director Janet Schulte at 508.228.9198.

## 2013 DONORS and SUPPORTERS

We strive for accuracy in this list. If your name has been omitted or listed incorrectly, please let us know at 508.228.9198.

### **MARIA MITCHELL CIRCLE**

The Maria Mitchell Circle recognizes individuals who make gifts to the Association's annual appeals totaling \$1,000 or more.

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Mr. & Mrs. David Dillard  
Mr. & Mrs. Douglass Ellis  
Mr. & Mrs. John Falk  
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Margaret & John Goldman  
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Dr. & Mrs. Malcolm MacNab  
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Douglas Horst & Maureen Phillips  
Elizabeth & David Powell  
Mary & MacGregor Read  
Ellen & Kenneth Roman  
Gayle & Joseph Santucci  
Janet E. Schulte  
Ann & Phillip Smith  
Rev. Georgia Ann Snell  
Esta-Lee & Harris Stone  
Anne P. Strain  
Jephtha Tausig-Edwards  
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Isabella Wagley  
John Copenhaver & Suellen Ward  
Helene & Tim Weld  
Holly & F. Scott Wilson

### **GIFTS IN HONOR OF MEMBERS AND FRIENDS**

#### **In Honor of Jacques D'Amboise**

Betty P. Kenan

# Our Galaxy of Support

**In Honor of John Daniels**

Dr. & Mrs. R. Huntington Breed

**In Honor of Dan Drake**

Betty P. Kenan

**In Honor of Tina & Stuart Fientz**

Marcia & Bruce Fowle

**In Honor of Sarah Little & Doug Hersh**

Mr. & Mrs. Peter Lull

Tierney Family

**In Honor of Scott Kearby**

Kristen Kearby

**In Honor of Linda & Dennis Lynch**

Patty, Dillon, Shane, & Liana Mitnick

**In Honor of Toni & Martin McKerrow**

Barbara H. Sutphen

**In Memory of Kenneth A. Anderson**

Ken & Cindy Blackshaw

**In Memory of Mimi Beman**

Dwight E. Beman

**In Memory of Edward T. Broadhurst, Jr.**

Edward T. Broadhurst, III

**In Memory of John Cabot**

Blakeslee & Jeanne Barnes

**In Memory of Irving Dubinsky**

Blumenstein Family

**In Memory of Ronnie Elwell**

Susan Kaplan

**In Memory of Dorrit Hoffleit**

Ms. Margaret Doleman

Judith T. Karpen

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S. Kimball Buck

Mr. & Mrs. Michael Cicero

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Maureen & Albert Glowacki

**In Memory of Nancy Nelson**

Mary & Al Novissimo

**In Memory of Donna Roux**

Roger Roux

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Edith Bouriez

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F. Helmut Weymar  
Helene & Tim Weld  
Randi & Ned Wight  
Betty D. Zinn

## **ORGANIZATIONAL AND FOUNDATION SUPPORT**

Community Foundation for Nantucket  
Community Preservation Act  
EGCF Children's Foundation  
ExxonMobil Foundation  
Figawi Charities  
The Kenneth and Hazel Roe Foundation  
The Long Family  
Massachusetts Audubon Society  
Massachusetts Space Grant Consortium

# Our Galaxy of Support

M.S. Worthington Foundation, Inc.  
Nantucket Biodiversity Initiative  
Nantucket Conservation Foundation  
Nantucket Education Trust, Inc.  
Nantucket Golf Club Foundation  
Nantucket Island Resorts  
Nantucket Land Bank  
Nantucket Land Council and Great  
Harbor Yacht Club Marine Grants  
Program  
Nantucket Shellfish Association  
NASA  
National Science Foundation – Research  
Experience for Undergraduates  
Program  
ReMain Nantucket  
Richard Coyle Lilly Foundation  
Roger Williams Park Zoo  
Shellfish and Harbor Advisory Board  
T Theory Foundation  
US Fish and Wildlife Service

## **GIFTS TO THE COLLECTIONS OF THE MARIA MITCHELL ASSOCIATION**

### **The Mitchell House, Archives and Special Collections accepted two gifts in 2013:**

Historically appropriate garden plants  
for the Mitchell House Garden – Liz  
Coffin

Image of Margaret Harwood taken by  
Bill Haddon, ca. 1965 – John Stackpole

### **The Natural Science Department was the recipient of two gifts in 2013:**

Two lined seahorses – Ned Manus

A lobster tank and chiller – Joe Pantorno





# Financial Report

The Nantucket Maria Mitchell Association  
Statement of Financial Position  
December 31, 2013  
*(With Summarized Financial Information for 2012)*

## Assets

	<u>2013</u>	<u>2012</u>
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 919,632	\$600,892
Inventories	2,390	2,878
Pledges receivables	864,026	922,621
Other receivables	31,447	4,421
Investments	3,506,282	3,412,418
Real estate interests	518,000	318,000
Remainder interest in property	504,745	455,780
Deferred expenses	-	7,271
Property, plant, and equipment, net	<u>4,850,885</u>	<u>4,975,085</u>
	<u>\$11,197,407</u>	<u>\$10,689,366</u>

## Liabilities and Net Assets

Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 105,073	\$ 65,091
Note payable	<u>11,398</u>	<u>16,238</u>
	<u>116,471</u>	<u>81,329</u>

## Net assets

Unrestricted	6,627,512	6,537,909
Temporarily restricted	2,524,785	2,141,489
Permanently restricted	<u>1,928,639</u>	<u>1,928,639</u>

## Total net assets

<u>11,080,936</u>	<u>10,608,037</u>
<u>\$11,197,407</u>	<u>\$10,689,366</u>

The Nantucket Maria Mitchell Association  
Statement of Activities  
Year ended December 31, 2013  
(With Summarized Financial Information for 2012)

Operating activities:	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	Totals	
Revenue and support				2013	2012
Programs	\$ 236,777	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 236,777	\$ 219,749
Admissions	36,600	-	-	36,600	38,156
Museum Shop	15,055	-	-	15,055	18,135
Memberships	86,315	-	-	86,315	65,694
Grants	200	126,597	-	126,797	76,571
Contributions	87,426	12,103	-	99,529	179,565
Special events	118,998	-	-	118,998	113,505
Investment return designated for operations	352,000	-	-	352,000	255,000
Rental income	33,715	-	-	33,715	36,370
Interest income	1,632	-	-	1,632	1,688
Net assets released from restriction					
Satisfaction of program restrictions	165,308	(165,308)	-	-	-
Satisfaction of capital-related activities	407,638	-	-	<u>407,638</u>	<u>378,075</u>
Total revenue and support	<u>1,541,664</u>	<u>(26,608)</u>	-	<u>1,515,056</u>	<u>1,382,508</u>
<b>Expenses</b>					
Program services	1,345,391	-	-	1,345,391	1,165,793
Management and general	260,598	-	-	260,598	243,148
Development	<u>139,937</u>	-	-	<u>139,937</u>	<u>150,100</u>
Total expenses	<u>1,745,926</u>	-	-	<u>1,745,926</u>	<u>1,559,041</u>
Change in net assets from operating activities	<u>(204,262)</u>	<u>(26,608)</u>		<u>(230,870)</u>	<u>(176,533)</u>
<b>Non-operating activities:</b>					
Investment return, less amounts designated for operations	293,865	-	-	293,865	121,961
Contributions and grants restricted for capital activities	-	758,577	-	758,577	284,686
Donation of remainder interest in property	-	58,965	-	58,965	16,420
Net assets released from restriction					
Satisfaction of capital restrictions	-	<u>(407,638)</u>	-	<u>(407,638)</u>	<u>(378,075)</u>
Change in net assets from non-operating activities	<u>293,865</u>	<u>409,904</u>	-	<u>703,769</u>	<u>44,992</u>
Change in net assets	<u>89,603</u>	<u>383,296</u>	-	<u>472,899</u>	<u>(131,541)</u>
Net assets, beginning of year	<u>6,537,909</u>	<u>2,141,489</u>	<u>1,928,639</u>	<u>10,608,037</u>	<u>10,739,578</u>
Net assets, end of year	<u>\$6,627,512</u>	<u>\$2,524,785</u>	<u>\$1,928,639</u>	<u>\$11,080,936</u>	<u>\$10,608,037</u>

The financial statements for 2013 have been audited by Bollus & Lynch, LLP, who have rendered an unqualified opinion on them. Complete financial statements are available on request.

# Board and Staff

## MMA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### Officers:

John L. Daniels, President  
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Second Vice President  
Malcolm W. MacNab, M.D., Ph.D., Clerk  
Michael Nelson, Treasurer

### Honorary Vice Presidents:

Eileen McGrath  
Robert W. Noyes, Ph.D.

### Directors:

Term Expires

- 2014 Caren Lambert, Ph.D.  
Toni B. McKerrow  
Mary Archibald (Bebe) Poor, D.V.M.  
Edward Symes III  
Howard N. Blitman  
Dennis Cross  
Malcolm W. MacNab, M.D., Ph.D.  
Eileen Rudden
- 2015 Patty Gibian  
Michael Nelson  
Anne Parks Strain
- 2017 Patricia L.R. Brennan, Ph.D.  
John L. Daniels  
Judith G. MacLeod  
Deborah Manus  
Helene M. Weld

## MMA STAFF

### Administration

Janet E. Schulte, Ph.D, Executive Director  
Kyra Taylor, Office Manager  
Patricia Roggeveen, Development  
Director and Campaign Counsel  
(Through October 2013)  
Joan Alison Stockman,  
Financial Administrator  
Scott Leonard, Property Manager

### Astronomy

Michael West, Ph.D.,  
Director of Astronomy  
Gary Walker, M.S., Telescope Engineer  
and Astronomer

Vladimir Strel'nitski, Ph.D.,  
Director Emeritus of the Maria  
Mitchell Observatory

### Education

Whitney Morris, M.Ed.,  
Summer Education Director

### Mitchell House

Jascin N. Leonardo Finger, M.A., Curator  
Pat Michaelson, Volunteer Tour Guide  
and Docent  
Maris Humphreys, Volunteer Rare Book  
and Biodiversity Library Cataloger  
Jacqueline Ray, Student Volunteer,  
Nantucket Lighthouse School

### Natural Sciences

Andrew McKenna-Foster, M.S.,  
Director of Natural Science Education  
and Programs  
Robert S. Kennedy, Ph.D.,  
Senior Research Fellow  
Edith F. Andrews, M.S.,  
Ornithologist Emerita  
Valerie A. Hall, Ph.D., Research Associate  
Peter B. Boyce, Ph.D., Research Associate  
W. Forrest Kennedy, B.S.,  
Aquarium Advisor  
Cheryl Comeau Beaton,  
Aquarium Advisor

## 2013 INTERNS

### Astronomy (NSF-Research Experience for Undergraduates)

Baylee Bordwell, Univ. of California,  
Berkeley '14  
Marie Calapa, Univ. of Mass, Amherst '14  
Jordan Bledsoe Concannon, University  
of Hawaii at Hilo '15  
Emily Moravec, St. Olaf College, '14  
Chantanelle Nava, University of  
Montana, '15  
Will Rhodes, The College of  
New Jersey, '14

## **Aquarium**

Corenna Blewett, B.S., MBA,  
U. of Rhode Island  
Kate Czechowski, Vassar College '14  
Leigh Habegger, U. of Rhode Island,  
M.A. candidate  
Tiffany DellaVentura, SUNY-ESF '14

## **Lead Environmental Education**

### **Instructors**

Tom Calvert-Rosenberger, B.S.,  
Texas Christian U.  
Paige Collins, Bates College, '14  
Chris Coomey, SUNY-Oswego, '15  
Meredith Fish, Penn. State University, '15  
Zach Gajewski, Virginia Tech University, '15  
Kate Hamre, B.A., Colby College  
Glenn Harrington, M.S., U Mass Amherst  
Leah Hayden, Lafayette College, '15  
Jorie Heilman, University of Miami, '15  
Charles Kenyon, Bates College '15  
Emily Lansdale, Vassar College, '14  
Sara Miller, Colby College, '15  
Daniel Pratson, St. Mary's College, '15  
Kellie Walsh, Colby College '15

## **Marketing/Merchandising**

Jessica Lefton, Univ. of Puget Sound, B.A.

## **MMA Marine Science Intern**

Jack Dubinsky, The Browning School  
Andrew Flax, Sidwell Friends School  
Heyward Lathrop, Episcopal High School  
Isaac Hersch, Wellesley High School  
Ned Manus, Brimmer and May School  
Sadie Goetz, Garrison Forest School

## **Scallop Research Assistants**

Oliver Bender, University of Rhode Island  
Abi Hines, Nantucket High School  
Sophie Proch, Nantucket High School  
Mackenzie Welch, Hanover (MA)  
High School

## **Mitchell House**

Sarah Scott, Mitchell House Intern,  
Vassar College, B.A.

## **Natural Science Museum**

Julia Blyth, Collections and Exhibit  
Manager, B.A., Ohio Wesleyan  
University  
Kyle Macsuga, B.S.,  
U. of Connecticut-Storrs  
Tabatha Hawkins, B.S., U. of Maine

## **VOLUNTEERS**

### **Astronomy**

Alison Dugas  
Emily Shain

### **Discovery Program Volunteers**

Sydney Bramen  
Sarah Caplan  
Stefano Chiampi  
Mason Earle  
Jordin Graves  
Ella Griffiths  
Will Hallett  
Ella Mare  
Colin McCloskey  
Raymond McClure  
Kalina Norwood  
Elizabeth Pellegrini  
Magdalena Robb  
Teddy Ryan  
Cade Sargent  
Miles Savitz

### **Mitchell House**

Patricia Michaelson, Ph.D., Tour Guide  
Maris Humphries, Rare Book Cataloger  
Jacqueline Ray, Nantucket  
Lighthouse School

### **Natural Science**

Marcia Aguiar	Ornithology
Ginger Andrews	Ornithology
Madison Beck	Scallops
Kenneth T. Blackshaw	Ornithology
Corenna Blewett	Scallops
Lois Boland	Scallops
Hannah Brown	Scallops
Leah Cabral	Scallops
Geoff Clayton	Scallops
Kelly Coughlin	Scallops
Dan Dorfman	Scallops

# Board and Staff

Jack Dubinsky	Aquarium
Allyson Gaylord	Scallops
Sam Golding	Scallops
David Goodman	Scallops
Steve Heck	Scallops
Maris Humphreys	Biodiversity
	Library
Colleen Hurley	Scallops
Allison Kenney	Scallops
Gary Langley	Scallops
Scott Leonard	Horseshoe Crabs
Oliver Long	Fossils/Museum
Andrew McCandless	Scallops
Herb Mittenenthal	Osprey
Peter Morrison	Scallops
Dan Mucaro	Scallops
Justine Paradis	Scallops
Steve St. Pierre	Scallops
Denis Toner	Scallops
Susan Toner	Nano Days

## **Natural Science, 17 years and under**

Daniel Blatt  
Paige Boszhardt  
Asher Carlson  
Chistopher Chai  
Kelly Clark  
Elizabeth Douglass  
Kara Falk  
Jenna Genthner  
Jordin Graves  
Will Halik  
Edward Johnson  
Skyler Kardel  
India Kilgore  
Peter Lindgren  
Grace MacAurthur  
Joe Maloney  
Grace Manning  
Ned Manus  
Isabella Morzano  
Colin Olsen  
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Tristram Ravenscroft  
Natasha Recoder  
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Charlie Szikles  
Jack Wilson  
Chandler Zinn

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Elvira Harden  
Dolly Howell  
Jack Kennedy  
Judith Lee  
Jim Lowe  
Tricia Lowe  
Karen MacNab  
Toni McKerrow  
Martin McKerrow  
Greg Maskell  
Debbie Stackpole Merritt  
Kit Noble  
Patty Rottmeier  
Pam St. Pierre  
Esta-Lee Stone  
Ruth Thompson  
Susan Toner  
Hannah Wallace

## **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 to pursue cutting edge research in astronomy using MMA's telescopes and leading telescopes around the world and in space.

Our collaborating **organizations** are:  
American Association of Variable Star  
Observers

Artists Association of Nantucket  
Willis Blount, *Ruthie B*

Boston University

Children's House of Nantucket

City University of New York

Connecticut College

Egan Maritime Institute

European Southern Observatory

Egan Maritime Institute

European Southern Observatory

International Astronomical Union

Josh Eldridge, *Critter Cruises*

Mark Genthner, *Just Do It Too*

Harvard-Smithsonian Center for  
Astrophysics

Harvard University Museum of  
Comparative Zoology

Keck Observatory

Linda Loring Nature Foundation

The Nantucket Lighthouse School

Long Island University

Massachusetts Audubon Society

Massachusetts Division of Marine  
Fisheries

Monomoy Charters

Nantucket Atheneum

Nantucket Biodiversity Initiative

Nantucket Boys and Girls Club

Nantucket Community Sailing

Nantucket Conservation Foundation

Nantucket Historical Association

Nantucket Islands Land Bank  
Commission

Nantucket Land Council

Nantucket Marine & Coastal Resources  
Department

Nantucket Preservation Trust

Nantucket Public Schools

Nantucket Shellfish Association

Nantucket Shipwreck and Lifesaving  
Museum

National Collaborative of Women's  
History Sites

National Grid

National Museum of Natural History

National Research Council of Canada

Oxbow Associates, Inc.

Peking University, China

Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile

Preservation Institute Nantucket

Roger Williams Park Zoo

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'Sconset Trust

Shearwater Excursions

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Tuckernuck Land Trust

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Universidad Nacional Autónoma  
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University of Ghent, Belgium

University of Hawaii

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UMass Boston Nantucket Field Station

UMass Dartmouth School of Marine  
Science & Technology

University of North Carolina at Charlotte

University of Paris, France

University of Rhode Island

University of Turku, Finland

University of Western Australia

US Fish and Wildlife Service

Vassar College

Yale University

Our collaborating **researchers** are:

Karla Alamo-Martínez (Universidad  
Nacional Autónoma de México)

Dr. Maarten Baes (University of Ghent,  
Belgium)

Karen Beattie, Manager of the  
Department of Science and  
Stewardship, Nantucket  
Conservation Foundation

Dr. Rob O. Bierregaard, Distinguished  
Visiting Professor, Department of  
Biology, University of North Carolina  
at Charlotte

Dr. John Blakeslee (National Research  
Council of Canada)

Jason Bridges, Nantucket Bike Tours

Dr. Patrick Côté (National Research  
Council of Canada)



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 Dr. Roberto De Propriis (University of Turku, Finland)  
 Dr. Steve Estabrooks, Scallop Researcher  
 Dr. Laura Ferrarese (National Research Council of Canada)  
 Dr. Margaret Geller (Harvard)  
 Dr. Marla Geha (Yale)  
 Dr. Rosa Amela González-Lópezlira  
 Dr. Michael Gregg (University of California, Davis)  
 Stephen Heck, Master's student, Northeast University  
 Dr. Nhung Ho (Yale)  
 Myungkook James Jee (University of California, Davis)  
 Dr. Andrés Jordán (Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile)  
 Dr. Jennifer Karberg, Research Supervisor, Nantucket Conservation Foundation  
 Roberta Lombardi, Herbarium Assistant, UMass Amherst  
 Dr. Vin Malkoski- Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries  
 Joe Martinez, Curatorial Assistant, Museum of Comparative Zoology  
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 Danielle O'Dell, Research Technician/Field Supervisor, Nantucket Conservation Foundation  
 Dr. Sarah Oktay, Managing Director, UMass Boston Nantucket Field Station  
 Kelly Omand, Research Technician/Field Supervisor, Nantucket Conservation Foundation  
 Dr. Eric Peng (Peking University, China)  
 Lou Perrotti, Director of Conservation Programs, Roger Williams Park Zoo

Tara M. Riley, Nantucket Town Shellfish Biologist and interns Stephen Heck, Mae Taylor and Ian Evans  
 Scott Smyers, Environmental Consultant, Oxbow Associates Inc.  
 Dr. Peter Stetson (National Research Council of Canada)  
 Dr. Brad Stevens, Assistant Professor, School for Marine Science & Technology, UMass Dartmouth  
 Dr. Marianne Takamiya (University of Hawaii)  
 Dr. Steve Tettlebach, Long Island University  
 Dr. Anthony Tur, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
 Joachim Vanderbeke (University of Ghent, Belgium)  
 Dr. Tim White, (College of Staten Island)

## 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, Ph.D.
1974-1980	Alfred Bornemann, D.Eng.
1981-1989	Jane W. Merrill
1990-1991	Robert K. Noyes
19912-1994	Robert W. Noyes, Ph.D.
1995-2000	Daniel W. Drake
2001-2007	Judith F. Lee
2007-2010	Toni B. McKerrow
2010-2013	Malcolm W. MacNab, M.D., Ph.D.
2013 -	John L. Daniels



4 Vestal Street  
Nantucket, MA 02554



## Maria Mitchell Association Annual Report 2013

Non-Profit  
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**Permit  
7**  
Nantucket, MA  
02554