



Friends of the Truro Meeting House

Dedicated to the Preservation of this Historic Truro Landmark



restoration work will be accomplished by year's end and that a special dedication to mark completion of the four-year restoration of the Meeting House will be held on July 4, 2017, which assuredly will be a joyous town-wide celebration.

than a year ago. **Phase 2** work is now substantially complete with exterior accessibility improvements in progress. This work required additional approvals from the Mass. Architectural Access Board (AAB) for design refinements to reduce regrading costs and for our request for a more traditional design than the AAB's standard for the iron handrails at the entry walkway and steps. Phase 2 foundation work was substantially completed last May, interior accessibility in July, the belfry and roof in October, and landscaping and regrading in November. Two major items on the completion "punch-list" are the entryway handrails and the exterior lighting. **Phase 3** bidding and design refinement proceeded for the remaining foundation work, scheduled to be completed this coming fall to best coordinate with events at the Meeting House.

TOWN VOTES FOR THE REVERE BELL

In a near unanimous decision at the Annual Town Meeting held on April 26, voters awarded funds to restore the Revere bell at the Truro Meeting House. The bell is the last remaining item in the three phase effort to thoroughly preserve and rehabilitate Truro's oldest public building, one that is still actively in use by the congregants of the First Congregational Parish.

If all goes according to plan, a team from the Verdin Bell Company will arrive in July to oversee the bell's gentle removal from the belfry, crating and transport to their Cincinnati foundry, some 918 miles from Truro. It is hoped that the

The Friends' bell application was unanimously recommended to the Town by the Community Preservation Committee (CPC) as well as by the Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee. The Town's support of public funding of the Truro Meeting House restoration is unprecedented in CPC's history, totaling some \$800,000 awarded to four funding requests. We thank the Town officials and citizens for their important role to help to preserve this historic landmark.

CPA GRANT PROGRESS

The **Phase 1** architectural design, engineering and emergency structural roof truss repairs were completed more

Last year, the Friends welcomed over 700 people at our events and raised \$15,710, both figures up from the previous year, with \$60,450 total contributions to date.

2016
National Park Service
CENTENNIAL



CAPE COD NATIONAL SEASHORE
55TH ANNIVERSARY: 1961-2016



Seashore, will address meeting challenges through creative public/private partnerships. Noted author and naturalist Robert Finch will read from his writings about the glories of the Seashore's natural and cultural wonders. Former CCNS superintendent and Co-chair of the Wellfleet Historical Commission

Maria Burks will moderate the panel and Q&A afterward.

If you would like to help on the day of the program, please contact Friends Chair John Marksbury at marksburyhome@comcast.net or Program Coordinator Carlotta Zilliax carlottazilliax@gmail.com The event is free but space is limited so plan to arrive early.

NEW PASTORS FOR THE PARISH

Truro welcomes Anastasia and Chad Kidd. The Kidds succeed Reverend Doctor Ronald Sloan as pastors of the First Congregational Parish of Truro. Rev. Sloan served from 2010 to 2015 where he was appreciated for his thoughtful sermons delivered in a sonorous voice. He and his wife Sue extended the program to include a children's message and warm hospitality after the service. Both will continue to worship with the Parish.

The Kidds each hold a Masters in Divinity degree from the Boston University School of Theology where Anastasia is currently Director of Admissions. Chad is Pastoral Ministries Manager for Brooksby Village in Peabody, a retirement community of some 2,000 residents. Chad also holds a master in music degree from Boston University and promises that music will play a major role in church services. The Kidds met when they were students at Belmont University in Nashville, Tennessee. Anastasia spent holidays with her family in Truro during childhood years. She and Chad recently bought a new home in North Truro. They are both excited about their new calling and the church's future. Anastasia hopes "that our burgeoning future together as the members and friends of First Parish will be bright, meaningful, and full of laughter." The Friends look forward to a long and rewarding pastorate for the Kidds in Truro.



FRIENDS HONORS NPS CENTENNIAL WITH MAJOR PUBLIC EVENT

This year marks the Centennial of the National Park Service. To join the celebration, the Friends of the Truro Meeting House is teaming up with the Truro Historical Society and the Friends of the Cape Cod National Seashore to host a Round Table: "The National Park Service at 100—Its Legacy and Challenges." The Round Table will be held on Saturday, July 16 at 10 - 11:30 AM in the historic Truro Meeting House.

A blue ribbon panel of speakers will be on hand to make this an auspicious occasion. Jonathan Moore, a distinguished career diplomat, government official and academician, will speak about being one of the creators of the Cape Cod National Seashore as legislative aide to Senator Leverett Saltonstall. George Price, Superintendent of the Cape Cod National

HISTORIAN'S CORNER

By Carlotta Zilliax

Now, fifty-five years after its beginning, the Cape Cod National Seashore seems like an established fact. This, however, was not always the case. While support from the highest levels of the federal government was certainly key, it was only through the dedicated efforts of many people willing to work in the unglamorous trenches of patience and compromise that the park was finally established. A tiny sample of those people might include:

David Martin, a lawyer and inventive legislative assistant to Sen. Saltonstall, drafted the original Seashore bill, a document Martin expected to be flexible and open to revision. Credited with significant input into social legislation like Medicare and student loans, he was creative enough in the Seashore bill to come up with the mechanism by which residents within the park could retain their homes and the towns their tax base.

The task of purchasing park land fell to **George Thompson**, the first Land Acquisition Officer, who negotiated on a case by case basis, the purchase of private and public lands within the six towns. His tact and understanding made possible some difficult transactions, so that he was said in the end to have been “the man who had taken more land away

from Cape Codders than any person in history. . .” and still “won their respect, confidence and trust.” (1)

But before a bill could be passed or land acquired, local concerns had to be addressed. Newspaper publisher **Malcolm Hobbs** and his editor **Francis Burling** made *The Cape Codder* a forum for that discussion. Breaking the news of the planned park in November of 1956 and enthusiastically endorsing with an entire issue the Seashore concept in March of 1959, they gave a context for public hearings and letters to the editor. When by February of 1960, the park bill remained stalled while shoreline development continued, the *Cape Codder* editorial urged swift passage.

What took time were the many boundaries and provisions which had to be reworked and the local opponents who had to be convinced. **Rep. Hastings Keith**, Republican, was elected to the 12th District after his predecessor had adamantly opposed any park, and Keith himself was hesitant and careful, but willing to attend numerous hearings and one tension filled meeting after another. Determined that an advisory commission of local representatives be a permanent feature and boundaries be open to revision, he exercised a caution which met much local objection.

And, in our time, his stands out as an unusually bi-partisan effort.

If Martin, Thompson, Hobbs, Burling, and Keith listened to the people, Provincetown artist and archeologist **Ross Moffett** listened to the land and its *ancient* peoples. Considered the grandfather of Cape Cod archeology, Moffett mapped Indian sites in Provincetown, Truro, and Wellfleet and left careful descriptions of what he found and how he found it. As a local and strong proponent of the Seashore, he understood the historical context of his finds, many of which are housed in Truro's Highland House Museum. His work contributed to the Park Service both depth of understanding and urgency of preservation.

Interpreting our history and our local interests to the Park Service has long been the job of the Advisory Commission. From its first Truro representative **John Dyer, Jr.**—also then clerk of our Congregational Church—to Truro's current representative, **Selectman Maureen Burgess**, many have contributed to this unusual and significant *working* relationship.

(1) *The Cape Cod National Seashore: A Landmark Alliance*, C.H.W. Foster, p.69. *The Birth of the Cape Cod National Seashore*, Francis Burling

We Appreciate your Support
**Friends of the Truro Meeting
House, Inc.**

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The Friends of the Truro Meeting House
is recognized by the IRS as a charitable
non-profit 501 (c) (3) organization.

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**FRIENDS SUMMER
EVENTS**

(Plus Parish Events in Italics)



June 19 Sunday, 10 AM

First Service and

3 PM Concert: Ken Medema

June 25 Saturday, 8 PM

Candlelight Service

July 5 Tuesday, 5 PM Concert:

Steve Sollog and the New
Beach Band

July 7 Thursday, 7 PM

Hayden Herrera: “Listening to
Stone: The Art and Life of
Isamu Noguchi”

July 16 Saturday, 10 AM

Round Table: “The National
Park Service at 100 – Its Legacy
and Challenges”

July 17 Sunday, 7:30 PM

Parish Movie Night

July 24 Sunday, 5 PM Concert:

Chamber Singers of the Outer
Cape Chorale

July 30 Saturday, 8 PM

Candlelight Service

Aug 3 Wednesday, 5 PM

Concert: Sentimental Journey
Swing Band

Aug 11 Thursday, 7 PM

Robert Allison: “Paul Revere:
American Industrialist”

Aug. 13 Saturday, 10 AM

Blessing of the Animals

Aug 20 Saturday, 3 PM

*Installation of Reverends
Anastasia and Chad Kidd*

Aug 27 Saturday, 8 PM

Candlelight service

Aug 28 Sunday, 6 PM Concert:

Blair Resika and Dick Miller

Sept 10 Saturday, 10 AM

Friends of the Truro Meeting
House Annual Meeting and
Reception

Sept 10 Saturday, 5 PM Parish
Annual Meeting and Banquet

Sept 11 Sunday, 10 AM

*Final Season Service (Services
also tentatively November 24
Thanksgiving Morning and
December 24 Christmas Eve)*

Admission to our events is free
or by a suggested donation.
Schedule updates announced by
email and on our website.

**Tours of the Meeting House
and Congregational and Snow
Cemeteries:**

**Wednesdays, July 6, Aug. 3,
and Sept. 7 at 10 AM.**