



Newsletter

Friends of the Truro Meeting House

Dedicated to the Preservation of this Historic Truro Landmark



2026 Summer Programs – Saturdays at Seven

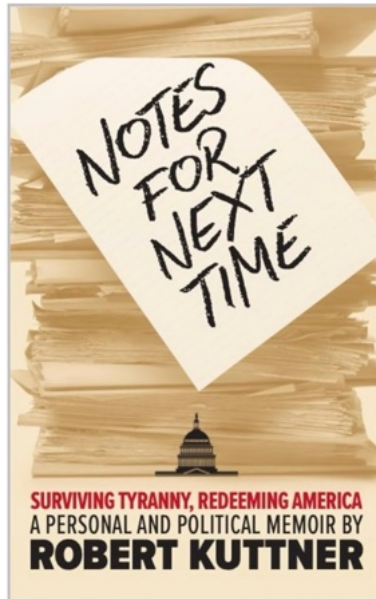
In honor of the Declaration of Independence’s 250th anniversary, the proclaimed human rights of Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness form the theme of our 2026 Summer Programs.

Happiness is showcased by ice cream making for kids, Jimmy Tingle’s first ever humorous appearance at the Meeting House, and Cape Harmony’s a capella concert.

Life is classically captured in “Our Town,” a play though written about a small New Hampshire town nearly 90 years ago could have Truro as a stand-in, the fresh and disarming tales spun by Yankee storyteller Andy Davis, the magical songs of Cole Porter, and the poetry of Charles Coe.

Liberty is dissected by notable political commentators Robert Kuttner and David Corn in appearances bookending the season.

Put the dates in the calendar; you won’t want to miss any of these programs at our recently air-conditioned Meeting House!



June 27 Saturday at 7pm Robert Kuttner “Notes for Next Time”

Why did we lose the broadly decent economy of the era after World War II? Why did reformers win all the important arguments about how to renew a good society, only to lose the politics? Why do democracies keep saving capitalism—only to watch plutocrats undermine democracy again and again? What lessons might we learn so that next time we win the arguments *and* the politics? And how do we make sure that there *is* a next time?

Veteran journalist, co-founder of *The American Prospect*, and one of America’s leading political economists, Kuttner offers a sweeping and deeply personal account of how we got here and how we might still change course.

Presentation and book signing co-sponsored by the Truro Public Library.



July 11 Saturday at 7pm Storyteller Andy Davis “Reaching for the Moon – Stories about bending the arc of the moral universe”

A selection of social justice stories, narrative reflections on how we maintain hope and stand up for what’s right in the most difficult of times. Through historical tales, personal stories and a bit of folklore, Andy will transport us from ancient times to the present day and from the south of this country to El Salvador and West Africa.

\$20 voluntary admission.



July 25 Saturday at 10:30am Ice Cream Making for Kids Event at the Truro Public Library

Fun, tasty, and educational family event co-sponsored by the Friends, Truro Historical Society, and Truro Public Library.

RSVP to the Truro Historical Society:





July 25 Saturday at 7pm

Jimmy Tingle “Humor and Hope for Humanity”

Renowned humorist, Jimmy takes us on a very funny and soul-searching journey from his Boston roots as an aspiring comic and street performer to network television, Harvard professor, a run for political office, and up to the present 2026 moment with a multi-media presentation.

Tickets sold in advance at \$35 (plus handling fee) and \$40 at the door.

To purchase advance tickets go to: truomeetinghousefriends.com/events/



August 1 Saturday at 7pm

“Our Town”

Thornton Wilder Play Reading

Thornton Wilder’s Pulitzer Prize-winning play of life in Grover’s Corners is a beloved American classic that asks timeless questions about the meaning of love, life, and death. “Do any human beings ever realize life while they live it?—every, every minute?”

Produced and directed by actor Peter (Mackenzie) Cook, the play will be read by local and professional actors.



August 8 Saturday at 7pm

Cape Harmony

Back by popular demand, this talented a capella group of college women from across the country who

gather each summer on the Cape will harmonize for our audience. *Tickets sold at the door \$15 per adult and \$12 per child under 12.*



August 15 Saturday at 7pm

Celebrating Cole Porter
Cole Porter (1891-1964) had a

connection to Provincetown where he reportedly maintained a retreat on Winslow Street from the late 1920s to the 1940s, making it a significant part of his life and artistry. Many of his popular songs will be performed by local singers with saxophonists Ken Field and Dave Wilson and ensemble. The program will be introduced by Ira Wood, host of WOMR's The Lowdown.

\$20 voluntary admission.



August 22 Saturday at 7pm

David Corn
This year’s return appearance by popular

journalist David Corn will discuss our upcoming mid-term elections in what has become an authoritarian country. Co-sponsored by the Truro Public Library.



Saturday, August 29 at 7pm

Charles Coe Poetry Tribute
Poetry by the late Charles Coe

(1952-2025) will be read by a variety of noted Cape Cod personalities. Coe’s poems speak to the heart and mind as well as the ear. Above all, his poems touch upon what is essential in us all and speak of life as a gift that is far from

perfect but all we have. Coe and his writing are known to many on the outer Cape from the acclaimed project A Symphony of Crickets.

Hosting Community Gatherings

The Friends are reaching out to make the Meeting House a center for community events.

Monday, June 22 at 6pm

Wild Rose Poetry & Story

Featuring four extraordinary poets: Elizabeth Bradfield, Andrea Cohen, Tanya Olson, and Kate Wallace Rogers, followed by a reception at 7:30. This is a free event sponsored by YesYes Books and hosted by Lili Flanders and KMA Sullivan.

Wednesdays July 8 and August 11 at 5:30pm

Truro Conversations

Truro’s kitchen table conversations will be held at the Meeting House to broaden participation. Discussions are free ranging but focused on issues of importance to Truro.

Mondays July 13, August 3, and September 14 from 4-5pm

Sound Baths with Kat Black

Crystal singing bowls offer a uniquely relaxing form of meditation for rest, relaxation, and restoration of your body and spirit. *\$10 suggested donation.*

Friday, August 28th two performances – 7pm and 9pm

Lumos Candlelight Concerts

Presented by First Parish Truro, the candlelight concert will feature a string trio playing their Beatles repertoire surrounded by hundreds of LED candle lights creating a unique musical experience in our beautiful space.

Ticket sales link to be announced.

All events are free unless noted.

Donations for the preservation of the Meeting House are appreciated.



For updates:

truomeetinghousefriends.com/events/

HISTORIANS CORNER

A New American Revolution

Robert Kuttner

Donald Trump was elected president -- twice -- because so many Americans concluded that the American economy and American politics were not delivering for them. They were not wrong.

If you look at the social compact that my generation enjoyed, you can appreciate just how both political parties failed younger Americans. Most of us could buy homes without help from affluent parents. We could attend college without going into crippling debt. Those of us with blue collar jobs could make a decent living. Most jobs came with real pensions rather than inadequate 401k plans.

That package is gone. With each succeeding generation, it gets further out of reach. As America celebrates its 250th anniversary, for too many people the American Dream has evaporated. But we have to get it back, or we will seed more disaffection from democracy itself and more political nihilism.

The deal that my generation had was not some kind of lucky accident. It was the deliberate result of the legacy of Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal. The lucky part was that the Great Depression produced a leader like FDR rather than an American Hitler.

The core achievement of the New Deal was to housebreak capitalism, so that the economy could provide broad prosperity. The lesson of the Depression was that when Wall Street goes on a binge, the whole society suffers from the morning-after. The well-regulated financial markets legislated by the New Deal compelled Wall Street to play its textbook role of supplying capital to



the real economy rather than feathering its own nest. Strong unions and labor laws provided a counterweight to corporations. Wages rose in lockstep with productivity. The government guaranteed and subsidized mortgages. Public universities were free and the GI Bill enabled millions of vets to attend private ones.

It took only one bad decade, the 1970s, to trigger the dismantling. Finance was deregulated; unions were undermined. Corporations stopped providing pensions. Money for housing was cut. Both parties were complicit. After Ronald Reagan, Democrats began emulating Republicans.

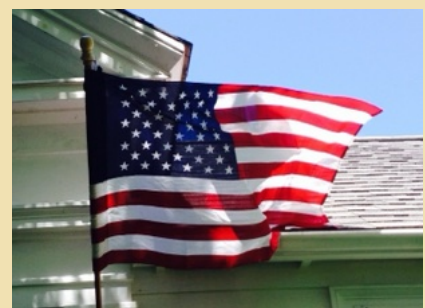
To recreate anything like the structure of opportunity that my generation had, we would need a program and politics at least as radical as Roosevelt. We'd have to end the current system of student debt and restore free public universities. We'd need to go beyond even Medicare for All and end the for-profit medical system, which consumes almost 20 percent of GDP and delivers less care than most national health insurance systems. We need a second layer of Social Security, adequately funded, to provide security in old age. And we need to restore affordable housing. With AI, plentiful good jobs could be the most difficult challenge of all. But there is plenty of useful work to be done, caring for



the young, the old, the sick, and conducting all manner of research.

How can America afford all this? We are more than twice as rich, on average, as in the 1950s. But that wealth is more highly concentrated than at any time in our history. We will soon have our first trillionaire in Elon Musk. The fact that the Massachusetts millionaire tax keeps exceeding its revenue projections shows just how much money can be raised by taxing concentrated wealth.

Post-Trump, if we are fortunate and have some inspired leadership, we will have a great national debate about reviving both democracy and opportunity, comparable to the great national debate about ending slavery. I wrote *Notes For Next Time* on the optimistic premise that we will get a next time. We had better maximize the moment. If not, Americans will continue giving up on democracy itself. On the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, America needs a rededication to its promise.



Friends of the Truro Meeting House, Inc.

A charitable non-profit 501(c)(3) organization

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Truro, MA 02666

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To make a donation or contact us:

truomeetinghousefriends.com

truomeetinghousefriends@gmail.com

6/4/2026

CPA Funding Awarded to Restore the South Façade

The Friends thank the Town and the Community Preservation Committee for awarding \$39,657 for the recently completed shingling and related restoration work for the entry façade and bell tower.

2027 Marks the 200th Anniversary of the Truro Meeting House

Celebration Events and Special Programs

– Join us and let us know if you would like to be a volunteer or sponsor for a program or event.

Education – Help us coordinate with the Truro Historical Society and Truro Central School to engage students to learn about our history and role in the founding of Truro.

Meeting House History Booklet, Highland House Museum Exhibit, and Truro Public Library Exhibit –

Lend your historic artifacts or photos for our anniversary exhibits.

Please email us if you want to help:

truomeetinghousefriends@gmail.com



October 1, 2025



October 2, 2025



October 7, 2025



May 18, 2026