



*Est. 1953*

# Nauset Heights Association

---

Preservation ♦ Friendship ♦ Community

---

Spring 2010 Newsletter

## President's Message

Spring has arrived and even though the weather has caused many changes in the landscape here and around the globe, we are grateful for the warmer sun and longer days. Each year brings new challenges and causes us to put our heads together to come up with innovative solutions. Nauset Heights is a wonderful neighborhood. I am grateful to know so many of you and honored to be part of an organization that is all about the importance of community. I look forward to our summer together!

Joan Flynn

## ➤ Spring / Summer 2010 Calendar – Save the Dates!

- |                 |        |   |
|-----------------|--------|---|
| <b>April 17</b> | 9:00am | NHA Clean-Up Day – Meet at Joan & Kevin Flynn's home                      |
| <b>June 12</b>  | 9:00am | Board Meeting<br>Home of Joan & Kevin Flynn<br>14 Nauset Knolls Lane      |
| <b>July 10</b>  | 9:00am | NHA Meeting<br>Home of Dave Strickler & Kathy Pattison<br>1 Standish Road |

Guest Speaker: A representative of the Orleans Historical Society will talk about its summer exhibit featuring Nauset Heights and Mayo Duck Farm.

- |                |        |  |
|----------------|--------|--|
| <b>July 24</b> | 5:00pm | NHA Picnic<br>Home of the Dunham, Miller-Spencer,<br>Pillard families at 4 Standish Road |
|----------------|--------|--|

- |                  |        |   |
|------------------|--------|---|
| <b>August 21</b> | 9:00am | Annual Meeting<br>Home of Hap & Betty Barnes<br>7 Skunk's Bluff |
|------------------|--------|---|

Guest Speaker: Detective Kevin Higgins from the Orleans Police Department will give us an overview of how our police officers work with the community. He will field any questions we might have.

- |                 |        |   |
|-----------------|--------|---|
| <b>Sept. 11</b> | 9:00am | Board Meeting<br>Home of Joan & Kevin Flynn |
|-----------------|--------|---|

Please contact Joan Flynn if you would be willing to host a meeting in summer 2011, or with suggestions for speakers. Elections for NHA officers and two new board members will be held at the annual meeting in August. If you are interested in becoming a member of the board, please send an e-mail or note to Joan Flynn (booklady28@aol.com) or nominating committee chair Bruce Ayers (capepayer@comcast.net.)

**Orleans Historical Society's Summer Exhibition**  
**"Nauset Heights & Mayo's Duck Farm"**  
**July & August 2010 / Thursday, Friday, Saturday 10am – 1pm**

The history of Nauset Heights will be the focus of the OHS summer exhibition! It will explore the history, geology, and ecology of our part of Orleans. Artifacts, maps, and photographs from the "old days" will be on display. A Tuesday evening lecture series at the OHS Meeting House, 7:30 pm, will further explore the subject:

July 6	<i>A Short History of Cape Cod</i> / Robert J. Allison
July 13	Mayo's Duck Farm / Ken Mayo
July 20	Nauset Ecology / Sandy MacFarlane
July 27	Nauset Indians / Fred Dunford
August 3	Geologic Beginnings of Nauset Heights / William Romey
August 10	To be announced

➤ **Nauset Heights' Residents Join in History Project**

A committee – spearheaded by Jess Tucker/nausetheights.org – of some 35 interested Nauset Heights residents, including many NHA members and officers past and present, has been meeting periodically with the OHS and local experts since November 2009 to discuss ways to present and preserve the history of Nauset Heights. The stories recounted at these meetings are fascinating and fun. The hope is to create an archive of histories – of both people and houses – for all to share. Jess has kept a record of the stories told at the meetings to include on his web site. The committee has also been instrumental in helping the OHS to develop and assemble the exhibit.

**IMPORTANT:** If anyone has artifacts, photographs, art work, or documents that would be of interest to loan to the OHS for the exhibit, please contact OHS Museum Director, Tamsen Cornell, A.S.A.P. at [contact@orleanshistoricalsociety.org](mailto:contact@orleanshistoricalsociety.org) or 508-240-1329. Include a description, size, and dimension of items to be considered.

The sense of community fostered by this exchange of stories and history is palpable. Join in on the fun and attend the exhibit.

➤ **2010 NHA PICNIC**

**Saturday, July 24 -- 5 to 7 p.m.**

We are back to calling the "social gathering" a picnic, but the format will be the same as last year's very successful and festive event. This year Bill and Nelie Dunham will be the hosts in the three families' spacious yard on 4 Standish Road (the main cottage dates back to 1923, the small cottage to 1934.) Each family should bring a "hardy" appetizer (no desserts please) and their own lawn chairs. The Association will provide the ever popular raw bar and beverages – wine, beer, soda, water, ice. Pans in Paradise, the lively steel band that entertained us last year, will be back. If you missed last year's party, we encourage you to attend this year! It's a great way to meet, mingle, and chat with your neighbors, all the while feasting upon terrific food, drink, and music. Children are definitely welcome; games will be provided.

This event is just for current NHA members, their children, and house guests. We have reduced the admission fee to \$7/person in advance, \$10 at the door. Reservations should be made in advance either at the July 10 NHA meeting or by mailing your check, made out to Nauset Heights Association, to Nancy Munson, PO Box 1995, Orleans, MA 02653 by July 14. More details to follow on the NHA website and/or group e-mail.

### ➤ **New Members / Membership**

Welcome to this year's new members:

Sam & Liz Zenke Ball, 18 Doane Rd

Deborah Munson, 7 Alden Rd.

Wensley Barker, III, 26 Nauset Rd.

Bob & Laurie Plumb, 36 Alden Rd.

Pat & Terry Joyce, 58 Nauset Heights Rd.

Scott & Carol Zenke, 18 Doane Rd.

If you know of any new people in your neighborhood, please e-mail Membership Chairman Joan Corcoran ([joni.corcoran@gmail.com](mailto:joni.corcoran@gmail.com)). Remember, if more than one family is sharing a house and wants to be represented in the directory, receive the newsletter, and attend meetings and the picnic, please make out a separate application and pay separate dues.

### ➤ **NHA e-mail list: [nausetheights@googlegroups.com](mailto:nausetheights@googlegroups.com)**

The Nauset Heights Association group e-mail list proved very useful in its first year. It is an excellent vehicle to notify all NHA members of upcoming events as well as a forum for discussion of neighborhood issues – witness the flurry of e-mails re Callanan's Pass/ORV access to the outer beach in January in prep for the Selectman's hearing. Participation is optional. If you prefer not to receive NHA e-mails, simply send an e-mail to [nausetheights+unsubscribe@googlegroups.com](mailto:nausetheights+unsubscribe@googlegroups.com).

Bob Munson ([munsons@aol.com](mailto:munsons@aol.com)) keeps the list up-to-date. All e-mail changes/additions on the 2009 and 2010 member applications have been forwarded to him. However, if your e-mail address changes after March 31<sup>st</sup> please notify him directly.

### ➤ **NHA Website: [www.capecodnha.com](http://www.capecodnha.com)**

The *official* NHA website is up and running, with postings on NHA meetings and activities, membership information, and much more. Webmaster King Nelson has posted many fun photographs of last year's fabulous "social event" at the Betty and Hap Barnes, as well as shots of last fall's clean-up day crew. Look here for important updates on this summer's NHA events. Check it out!

### ➤ **[www.nausetheights.org](http://www.nausetheights.org)**

NHA member Jess Tucker's NausetHeights.org website is chock full of useful information and interesting facts about the Heights. There are now 20 "resource" sites that range from a beach cam and weather/traffic reports to rental listings and a fascinating Nauset history section, with photographs and background on several Heights cottages.

Nausetheights.org will sponsor the second annual July 4<sup>th</sup> Fun Run. See site for details. Contact Jess (781-710-2302 or [info@nausetheights.org](mailto:info@nausetheights.org)) if you have items to post.

### ➤ **A Report on 2009 NHA Events**

May 16: Spring clean-up day, which started at King & Lynn Nelson's home.

July 11: Adele Bloomfield welcomed NHA members to her home on Nauset Heights Road. Rick Wilson, past Commodore of the Nauset Flotilla of the Coast Guard Auxiliary gave an illuminating talk on how volunteers save the Coast Guard thousands of hours by their various patrol, safety, and training programs. A lengthy meeting followed. Topics included: treasurer's report; social event update; Friends of Nauset activities report; concern re closing of Nauset beach based on one sample; the NHA official web site; Jess Tucker's web site and varied reactions to the Fun Run and Movie Night the site sponsored; status of the Priscilla Landing storm drain; presentation opposing the Nauset Beachside Motel proposal to rebuild and convert to condominiums.

August 8: The NHA “Social Event” was a wonderful affair – the weather was perfect, the view of the outer beach from the Barnes’ home was exquisite, and the appetizers provided by each of you were delectable. A steel band played, courtesy of the Flynn’s. Best of all was the *camaraderie* on that beautiful evening – the 170 plus people who attended seemed to agree that it was one of the best NHA gatherings ever!

August 22: The annual meeting was held at Patti Carey’s home on Nauset Heights Road. Shellfish biologist, author, and head of Coastal Resource Specialists, Sandy MacFarlane, gave her perspective on the local shellfish situation and the wastewater/sewer debate, urging each one of us to pay close attention to the issue. Fred Turner gave the treasurer’s report, noting that ca.70% of members contribute to the stairs fund. Murray Bernard spoke about the Orleans Firebirds (aka the Cardinals) and the Cape Cod Baseball League’s importance to the town (more than 66,000 attended games last year.) The Zoning Board of Appeals voted against the Nauset Beachside Motel proposed condo complex, but the developer filed an appeal with the state land court. Another hot topic: traffic issues pertaining to access to the outer beach by off-road vehicles. Callanan’s Pass became the sole access after the town erected a barrier to Aspinet Rd. Joan asked for volunteers for a committee to deal with the issue. (See newsletter update.)

October 31: Fall clean-up day, originating from the Nelson’s and the Flynn’s.

### ➤ **In Our Memories**

We report the deaths of these Nauset Heights residents, with sympathy to their families:

Edith Dunham	Jim Roberts
Betsy McGee	Howard Rourke
Henry Palmer	

### ➤ **Community Outreach**

At the August 2009 annual meeting, NHA members voted to increase its contributions from \$25 to \$50. Checks have been sent to the following organizations:

Friends of Nauset	Orleans Historical Society
Friends of Snow Library	Orleans Pond Coalition
Lower Cape Outreach Council	Shelter Box (for Haiti relief)
Orleans Fireman’s Relief Association	

### ➤ **Oral History / Photographs**

Barbara Wigren has been collecting oral histories and old photographs of early Nauset Heights homes over the years. If you have a story to tell or photographs to share from the “early days,” contact Barbara at PO Box 1335, East Orleans, MA 02643/508-255-0196.

### ➤ **Stanchions, Speed & Safety**

The stanchions at the intersection of Nauset Heights and Beach Roads are in place from May through Columbus Day weekend to help prevent accidents with cars coming up from Nauset Beach. For safety on Nauset Heights Road, please slow down to 25 mph and remind your guests and tenants to do so as well. Remember, pedestrians should walk *facing* the traffic (i.e., left side of road); bicyclists ride on the right.

### ➤ **MA Boating**

For a boat mooring, contact the Orleans Harbor Master to place your name on a waiting list (currently a wait of some 10 years); you must renew your request each year to remain on the list. Boating Safety Certificates are required. New rules dictate that any boat

greater than 9 feet in length – including kayaks – needs a permit if left on a public beach. See link to new Town mooring and docking regulations on the NHA website.

Local boating courses: <http://www.state.ma.us/dfwele/dle/dlecours.htm>

### ➤ **At Nauset**

Priscilla Landing Storm Drain: Bill Dunham reports good news on his 8-year project to get the town to install an adequate storm drain at Priscilla Landing. Per Mark Budnick of the Highway Department, the work is likely to begin this fall as one of six town water quality improvement projects. Final paving of Priscilla Road is to follow in 2011. Kudos to Bill for his perseverance!

Callanan's Pass / Aspinet Road Update: Orleans park and recreation commissioners (who are also selectmen) have ruled that no more barricades would be placed by the town to block the private Aspinet Road to ORV access. They have also determined that Callanan's Pass is the only public access to the beach and that improvements to the road must be made. Residents of Callanan's Pass have agreed to make improvements to the road themselves. The town for its part will provide personnel to monitor the Nauset Heights Road intersection and the base of the road where it meets the outer beach.

No dogs are allowed on the outer beach from April 15<sup>th</sup> to September 15<sup>th</sup>. If you are driving onto South Nauset Beach you may bring dogs, but they must remain on leash.

On private roads, residents must ensure that bushes and trees are trimmed to a minimum clearance of 10 ft. wide by 14 ft. high, to allow emergency vehicles to pass by.

### ➤ **Friends of Nauset – Think Green!**

The Friends of Nauset is a non-profit organization that works to preserve the environmental quality of life for all of Nauset Heights. If you are interested in joining or taking a leadership role, please contact Kent Zelle at [kentzelle@gmail.com](mailto:kentzelle@gmail.com).

### ➤ **Town Happenings**

The Orleans Spring 2010 Town Meeting will be held on May 10<sup>th</sup> at Nauset Regional Middle School, 6:30 p.m. The spring election will be held on May 18.

The ongoing Wastewater/Sewer question for the town of Orleans defies brief summary. Suffice it to say that the preliminary plan passed at the May 2009 Town Meeting has come under fire from several quarters, for a variety of reasons.

### ➤ **Did You Know?**

\* Did you see our NHA president featured on the January 2010 cover of *PrimeTime*? Joan won an honorable mention for her poem in the *PrimeTime* Poetry and Prose Contest. Congratulations! (See [www.primetimecapecod.com/pdf/january10.pdf](http://www.primetimecapecod.com/pdf/january10.pdf))

\* Neighbor Kevin McCarthy, who spoke at a recent NHA meeting and is now in his nineties, was recently in the movie *Slipstream* with his good friend Anthony Hopkins.

\* Wyatt Earp, i.e. Hugh O'Brien, returned for a second time to Nauset Heights last fall. His hosts were Roberta and Zoe Hurlburt. Mr. O'Brien, in his eighties, has appeared in more than 40 movies. He has devoted his life to the youth leadership program HOBY ([www.hoby.org](http://www.hoby.org)) which Bill Dunham has worked with for some 19 years.

## ➤ A Bit of Nauset Heights History

*Excerpts from a personal history by the late Edith Williams Dunham. Recorded by Barbara Wigren in July 2002; on file at the Orleans Historical Society.*

I first visited Nauset Heights in 1931 and we boarded at the then Rollins Cottage for two weeks – comfortable and delicious food. . . . We came because my mother was a good friend of Mrs. Dole who built the small cottage now owned by the Tuckers. . . . At that time there was a dirt road all along the end of the bluff to the Dole’s house. Also no trees on the bluff . . . . I think there weren’t any houses on the bay side. The present homes on the other side were there except for the Calderwood’s. . . . When I was growing up the North Beach was near and there was no long arm. Just enough to make a warm protected place to swim and it was easy to walk to the waves. At low tide we’d swim to the North Beach. . . . Mussels grew profusely on the beach along the bluff – impossible to walk on. We would swim and dig clams at the mill pond too and enjoyed watching all the ducks where Grandview is now. . . . Speaking of ducks, one time we took some little ducklings and raised them (my children likewise.) Before we left in the fall we returned the adults to the duck farm and received *different* ducks ready for cooking. . . . After buying the Marston cottage [1935] my family added one room and bath behind the kitchen. Then we had horses and brought them to NH. . . . They added stalls to the garage and a closed shed for the horse trailer. We used to ride all over. During WWII my family used their gasoline ration to get here and then a horse and carriage to shop. There were blackouts. Mr. Tenney, the warden, used to check up every night. If a light showed you were strenuously lectured. . . so everyone tried to comply. Also our headlights were painted black at the top half.

---

### *Editor’s Note:*

Thanks to “cub reporter” Bill Dunham for his valuable input; and to President Joan Flynn, who is unfailingly helpful and supportive, as well as great fun to work with!

*Janet Bush*