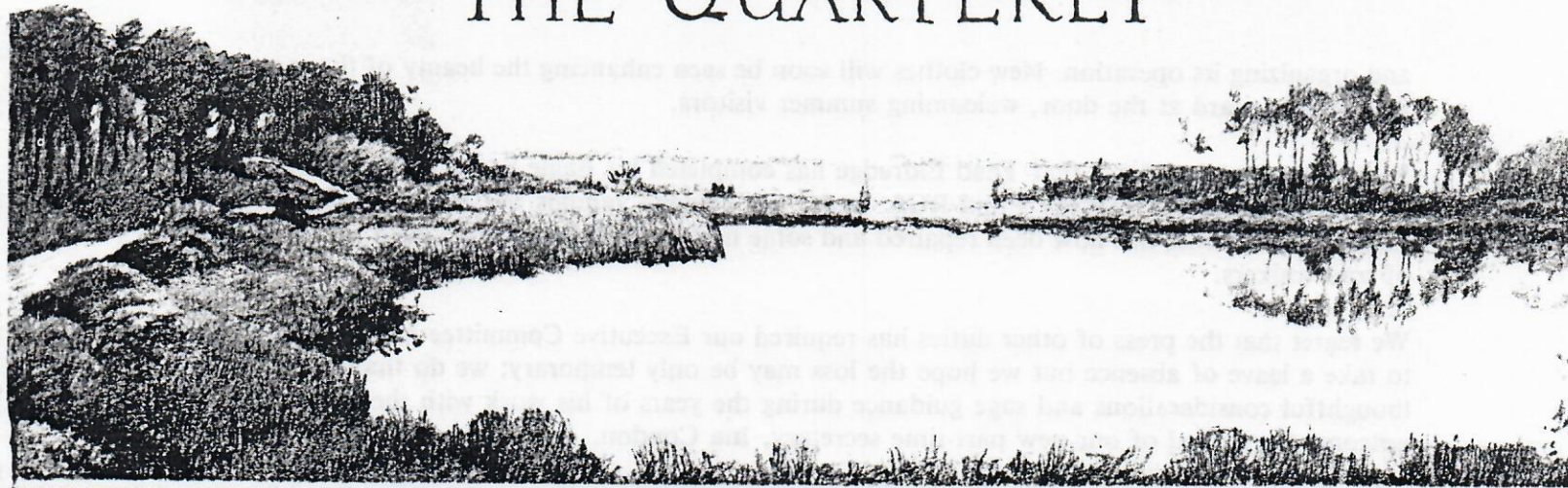


THE QUARTERLY



Bulletin of the CHATHAM CONSERVATION FOUNDATION INC.

FALL 1990

Our annual meeting was held in August at the Chatham Beach & Tennis Club and 180 members attended, a fine record compared to the past few years. The business meeting was very short and we re-elected C. Robin Turner as Trustee, and Ann B. Mahony as Clerk. The business meeting was followed by a social function to which members brought prospective new members and guests. The refreshments were funded by contributions of members as we could not use Foundation funds for such things and we thank all those members who made contributions either by mail or at the door; as a result, the actual cost of the meeting was somewhat less than the usual annual meetings held at the High School and many feel it would be as wise as it is pleasant to do this again next year.

The club looks out over the Ocean at the "Breach in the Beach" and the weather brought us one of the most beautiful days of the year! Appetites were assuaged by an outstanding array of hors d'oeuvres served by the Brocks and their permanent staff. Fresh oysters and clams on the half-shell were served from stations on the veranda, overlooking the sea. The clubroom walls were lined with lovely, poster-size enlargements of serenely enchanting scenes of many of the Foundations's properties. The posters are the donation of Ann Mahony and Joe Nickerson and copies are still available from the Foundation for the bargain price of \$10 each; they are suitable for framing.

At a regular executive committee meeting following the annual meeting, Robin Turner was re-elected President, J. Samuel Slicer was elected Vice President and Roy B. Meservey Jr. re-elected Treasurer. We are all delighted to have our dynamic president serve again although Robin insisted that it should be for one year only.

Over 3,000 visitors came through our historic Mayo House headquarters this summer and gave close to \$900 in donations. Again this year we will have the "Open House" during the "Chatham Christmas Walk," on Friday, December 7th from 7 to 9PM and on Saturday the 8th from 2 to 4PM. The house will be decorated in 19th century style with "greens but no glitter" and the hosts and hostesses will be in period costumes. Next to the open fire in the dining room, we will be serving hot mulled cider and punch and those exceptionally delicious cookies that come from the old recipes!

We thank the many hosts and hostesses and especially the High School students who volunteered to escort the visitors through the house this summer. We thank Beth Eldredge, our summer intern for the work she did, and we thank both Beth and Kendrick for the flowers they planted around the tree out on our front lawn and we thank Marge and Ned Jacob for their long hours of work on the house

and organizing its operation. New clothes will soon be seen enhancing the beauty of the mannequin who stands guard at the door, welcoming summer visitors.

We're happy to announce that Thad Eldredge has completed his Eagle Scout project of restoration and extension of the Barclay Pond-RCA trails; the damage vandals did months ago to the side railings and benches has now been repaired and some new benches have been added for the comfort of trail walkers.

We regret that the press of other duties has required our Executive Committee member Harry Ellis to take a leave of absence but we hope the loss may be only temporary; we do thank him for this thoughtful considerations and sage guidance during the years of his work with the committee. We welcome the arrival of our new part-time secretary, Ina Condon.

The Foundation thanks the daughter of Philip Donham for the memorial gift she made in his name.

We appreciated the gift by the Questors of a child's crib for the child's room upstairs and we thank Edith Palmer for her gift of a high-chair with a doll and the painting of a "pussy cat" and baby carriage.

Our membership drive is continuing and, with the help of our recruitment efforts during the annual meeting, we have gained over 20 new members. We hope soon to reach the 1,000 mark. Please help us by giving us names of prospective members and we can send them an invitational letter.

Many visitors at the Mayo House purchased copies of the 1890 Eldridge map of Chatham which shows the large breach in the North Beach, at that time opposite the present Fish Pier. We still have six of them left and can get more. At \$5 each, they make a fine Christmas present as does the famous "Beachcomber's Botany" which can be ordered for \$8.95 plus \$1 for shipping. An even finer present would be a gift membership in the Foundation, for a child, a relative or a friend!

Recent heavy seas and strong winds have made further inroads on our shores, especially off the bluffs by Chatham Light and to the south. This gives rise to great concern among the people and, indeed, some of our own shore-front properties are in increasing danger.

We welcome all who can attend the Mayo House Christmas celebrations on December 7th and 8th and Robin and the entire Executive Committee extend to all of you our best wishes for a most happy Christmas season and a glorious New Year!

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