

Maria Mitchell Association Annual Report 2010



4 Vestal Street  
Nantucket, MA 02554

Non-Profit  
Organization  
**Permit  
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Nantucket, MA  
02554



*Maria Mitchell Association  
Annual Report 2010*





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

Dear Members and Friends:

The Maria Mitchell Association has had another banner year, documented in part on the pages that follow. Your levels of support and participation demonstrate that it takes an island to make an organization such as ours succeed. We are extremely grateful to the almost 1000 members and the hundreds of donors to our Annual Appeal, Gala and other fundraising efforts.

We need this support now more than ever as together we build a Science Center and Aquarium on Washington Street.

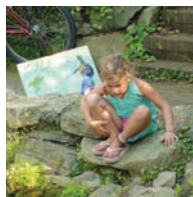
We also thank all of our wonderful volunteers and a dedicated and generous board. Our exceptional staff led by Janet Schulte is hardworking and talented. Our summer interns are an inspiration with their knowledge and energy.

Most of all we are indebted to the thousands of children, Island students, residents and visitors who use our facilities and staff to better connect with the natural wonders of our Island, its waters and skies. We look forward to experiencing the beauty of Nantucket together.

Sincerely yours,  
Malcolm W. MacNab, M.D., Ph.D.  
President, MMA Board of Managers



Malcolm W. MacNab, M.D., Ph.D.  
President, MMA Board  
of Managers



# Letter from the Executive Director

To our Members and Friends:

2010 has been a transformative year for the Maria Mitchell Association. We look forward to your input and support as our plans for a fabulous new Science Center in downtown Nantucket emerge. We will also continue to count on your participation in classes, walks, museum visits and lectures that illuminate the natural wonders of Nantucket.

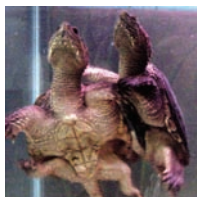


**Janet E. Schulte, Ph.D.**  
**Executive Director**

Please enjoy this report of all that was accomplished in 2010: the Department of Astronomy again shone with its outstanding research program; the Mitchell House received recognition for its historical significance; the Aquarium and Natural Science Museum hosted hundreds of visitors and dozens of local fauna; we welcomed talented new staff and wonderful summer interns; we traveled to the schools and around the island looking at beetles, ospreys, barn owls, scallops and planets. Attendance at events and classes reached record levels, and our partnerships on- and off-island continue to grow. It is these collaborative efforts that are making such a difference in the degree to which we can bring you new and creative ways to explore the natural world of Nantucket.

None of this could have happened without our Galaxy of Support. Thanks to each of you who have contributed in so many ways. And, a most special acknowledgement to the foresight of the Nantucket Islands Land Bank for helping to launch this transformative year with the innovative idea for a land swap!

Sincerely yours,  
Janet E. Schulte, Ph.D.  
Executive Director



## Achievements and Opportunities



The year 2010 was one of opportunity rooted in MMA's mission and legacy as an educational and research organization. One of the most exciting developments for MMA in 2010 was a land swap with the Nantucket Islands Land Bank for property on Washington Street near the present Aquarium. The larger property we have acquired will allow MMA to build an interactive, hands-on Science Center and Aquarium that will serve as a portal to the natural world of Nantucket. Plans are underway to design the facility, initiate a campaign to raise funds for the program, and develop formal agreements with other conservation organizations on and off-island to collaborate on the development of exhibits, programs, and research projects. The Aquarium will remain open on its present location for the next two years or so while funds are raised, permits are acquired, and designs are finalized.



2010 Astronomy Intern, Alexa Villaume, received the prestigious Chambliss Award for the best student poster at the January 2011 Meeting of the American Astronomical Society. This is the second Chambliss Award by an Astronomy intern in the five years since the award was established. During this time, the interns in the department have also received three Chambliss Honorable Mentions.



MMA staff worked with teachers in the Nantucket Public Schools, at the elementary level, to produce a science curriculum notebook for each grade level. Funded by the Nantucket Golf Club Foundation, the elementary school curriculum project resulted in a unique science textbook that uses Nantucket as a laboratory for learning important scientific principles.

The Mitchell House was named one of the top ten women's history sites in the United States by *USA Today*.



MMA saw changes in staffing this year. Dr. Bob Kennedy stepped down as Director of Natural Sciences, but will continue his research projects on ospreys, barn owls, and scallops as a Research Associate of the department. We welcomed Andrew McKenna-Foster as Director of Natural Science

Education and Programs, a promotion to a leadership role after seven summers at MMA as an intern, research fellow, and director of the natural science museum. Cheryl Comeau Beaton also joined the year-round staff as Natural Sciences Program Manager with responsibilities for oversight of the museum shops, aquarium programming and resources, and developing new ways to provide programs to year-round Nantucket residents. Rachel Rasfeld, Public Relations and Events Coordinator, left to pursue a lifelong dream to teach in Japan. Her successor, Isabella Wagley, Marketing and Development Associate, has ably picked up the reins to keep MMA in the public eye and our members and friends informed of our programs, plans, and projects.

Toni McKerrow, Board President from 2007 to 2010, handed the reins of leadership to Malcolm W. MacNab in August 2010. Patty Gibian became second Vice President when Dr. MacNab became President. John Daniels serves as First Vice President; Michael Nelson is Treasurer, and Judy Belash serves in the role of Clerk.

## EXPLORE

### The research and collections management projects of the Maria Mitchell Association

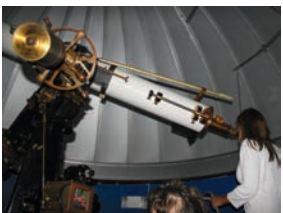
All departments maintained an active research agenda in 2010 and continued to work on documenting and improving collections management. Highlights of this impressive body of work by MMA's staff, interns, members, and volunteers are indicated below. Please visit online or call 508.228.9198 for copies of a department's 2010 Annual Report to the Executive Director providing details on the research projects, conference presentations, and publications of the departments' staff.



Since his arrival in 1997, Dr. Vladimir Strelitski, Director of **Astronomy**, has created an impressive astronomy research facility at the Loines and Vestal Street Observatories. Today, the MMA has two research telescopes that continue to make new discoveries and develop new methods for studying variable objects in the night sky. The research and discoveries achieved by the interns who are part of the National Science Foundation – Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) is most notable.

The major research results in Astronomy in 2010 are:

1. The discovery of apparent periodicity in the optical variations of the unique “star-laser”, MWC349, by the REU intern Kamber Schwarz. This period makes the hypothesis of a *hidden companion* (another star or a giant planet rotating around the primary star) very plausible.



2. Theoretical prediction by the REU intern Dustin Cassel of new possible “notches” in the contemporary Cosmic Microwave Background radiation left by an early stage of the expanding Big-Bang Universe.

3. The discovery of the drastic difference in “monochromatic” and “continuous” variations of UXORs, which confirms the hypothesis that the cause of the strong variations of the “continuous” radiation of these stars is obscuration by gas/dust clouds, possibly proto-planets, located in a circumstellar disk. MMO REU interns Megan Bedell and Alexa Villaume conducted the study; Alexa received a Chambliss Award for the best student poster at the January 2011 AAS meeting.

4. The detection of a dramatic outburst of optical radiation from a “blazar” (young active galaxy) OT+081, when the intensity of the light increased by a factor of 25 in only a few days by REU intern Stephanie Sallum. These MMO observations were crucial for covering the optical domain in the joint study of the outburst at various wavelengths by several ground-based and space observatories.

5. New observations and a theoretical model of radio emission by methanol molecules from galactic gas clouds in which stars are being formed by REU intern Adam Michael and the Presidential Award intern Michi Baubock.

REU Students presented posters on their 2010 research projects at the Annual Meeting of the American Astronomical Society. Dr. Strelinitski presented papers at the following conferences: “She is An Astronomer” (London), European-Asian Astronomical Society (Nizhnii Archyz, Russia), and the International Conference on Oe-Be Stars (Paris).

The research activities of the **Mitchell House, Archives and Special Collections** focus on the preservation of the Maria Mitchell Birthplace and the papers and library of Maria Mitchell, the Mitchell family, and the Maria Mitchell Association. In summer 2010, the students and faculty from Preservation Institute: Nantucket of the University of Florida continued to work on the analysis of the historic paint in the Mitchell House and began to assemble a computer program to better track preservation work that occurs in the Mitchell House. Re-parging of the 1790 chimney with lime mortar was funded by the Community Preservation Act and completed by Pen Austin and Sanford Kendall.



Mitchell House Curator, Jascin Leonardo Finger and Mitchell House intern, Maureen McVeigh performed conservation work on the artifacts in the “Long Closet” and the small glass case. Restoration of some of William Mitchell’s garden along the west wall of the Mitchell House occurred, with gifts of plants from neighbors Nancy Giragosian and Caren Lambert.

Jascin Leonardo Finger completed her Master of Arts degree in History from Lesley University. Her thesis, “The Daring Daughters of Nantucket Island: How Island Women from the Seventeenth through the Nineteenth Centuries Lived a Life Contrary to Other American Women,” made extensive use of the MMA’s Archives and Special Collections. She presented her research project at the Fall 2010 meeting of the New England Historical Association.



The 2010 Mitchell House intern researched the various artists who have painted the portraits of the Mitchell Family which are on display in the Mitchell House.

More than forty research requests related to Maria Mitchell, her family, and the MMA Archives and Special Collections were made to the Department in 2010.

The Department of **Natural Sciences** continues to conduct research and forge collaborations to study the biodiversity of Nantucket’s flora and fauna.

Once again, MMA members and friends followed the fascinating seasonal and diurnal migrations of Nantucket Ospreys. The discovery of the presence of the Four-Toed Salamander on Nantucket by MMA staff was published in the 2010 *Herpetological Review* Volume 41, Issue 2.

### **Other research projects underway include:**

- American burying beetle re-introduction in collaboration with Roger Williams Park Zoo
- Purse-web Spiders on Tuckernuck Island (accepted for 2011 publication)
- Biodiversity of Harvestmen on Nantucket (Daddy Long-Legs)
- Population Survey of the Barn Owls on Nantucket
- The seven ongoing projects of the Bay Scallop Research Program of the Maria Mitchell Association and Nantucket Shellfish Association
- Biodiversity inventory of the Marine Fishes and Invertebrates of Nantucket and Madaket
- Biodiversity Survey of the Snakes of Nantucket
- Earthworm Species Inventory on Nantucket and Tuckernuck
- Nightjar Surveys on Nantucket
- The Biodiversity and Distribution of the Spiders of Nantucket
- Spring Surveys of Horseshoe Crabs on Nantucket. A cooperative project with Massachusetts Division of Marine Fishes, Nantucket Conservation Foundation, and UMass Boston Nantucket Field Station.



The Scallop Research Team presented research findings at the Milford Aquaculture Conference, the National Shellfisheries Association Annual Meeting, and the Northeast Aquaculture Conference and Exposition.

**The collections of the Maria Mitchell Association** – archival, historical, astronomical, and biological – are important research resources that preserve important aspects of the Association’s and the island natural and human history. They are utilized by researchers, students, artists, and the general public.



MMA’s Birdathon was started in 2002 with the goal of upgrading MMA’s Ornithology collections storage facilities. The funds raised this year -- \$14,235 -- were used to purchase the final six state-of-the-art Delta Design museum specimen cabinets to completely house the Edith F. Andrews Ornithological Collections – thus completing our nine year goal. Collections Management Intern, Julia Blyth, prepared the cabinets and moved the specimens into the new Delta cabinets during the summer of 2010. Ten new specimens were added to the collection.

# Explore, Educate, Enjoy

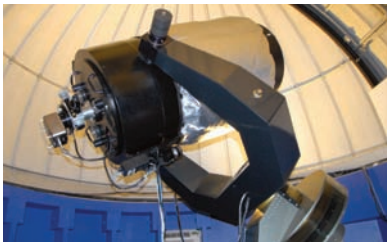
The Plant Collection was used for research by visiting scientists and care and maintenance of the collection continued. The Arachnology Collection currently contains 4,016 identifiable spider specimens representing 259 species. These are being prepared for deposition at the Harvard Museum of Comparative Zoology.

Morgan Ravenscroft, a Naturalist-in-Training, helped identify our growing population of tropical fish specimens.



All of the papers and personal library of Maria Mitchell and the papers of the Mitchell Family have been processed, re-housed, and re-located to the climate-controlled space that was built in 2009 with funds from the M.S. Worthington Foundation. The remaining books in the Special Collections are being cleaned and re-located. This project has been funded by the M.S. Worthington Foundation, the Community Preservation Act, and several other individual gifts. The MMA web-site now features a listing of Maria Mitchell's personal library and the finding aids for the Maria Mitchell Papers and the Mitchell Family Papers. They are being used by researchers from around the globe. The work of properly cataloging Maria Mitchell's personal books has been conducted by our volunteer rare book cataloger, Maris Humphreys.

James Storrow of Stormville, New York donated a bronze bust of Maria Mitchell, copied from the original at the Vassar College Observatory. The original was sculpted in 1877 by Emma Brigham.



With the help of Nantucket auctioneer, Rafael Osona, MMA was given a Plössl en Wien telescope, stamped with "Maria Mitchell." The telescope was purchased with gifts from Kathy Dexter and Daniel Badger, Judy Seinfeld, Eric and Wendy Schmidt, and an anonymous donor.

## EDUCATE

### The educational program and learning resources of the Maria Mitchell Association



The **summer *Discovery* program** for children aged 4 – 12 expanded its programming by two additional weeks in 2010. Three-hundred seventy children participated in classes offered during the week by the team of environmental education interns. Of great interest this summer were Family Astronomy Nights co-taught by environmental education and astronomy interns. We also provided 67 hours of Private *Discovery* classes to families. We are grateful to our colleague island organizations for their support of the *Discovery* programs through the resources and expertise they provide to our young students.

The Mitchell House **Junior Historians** classes included doll-making, candle and tin lantern making, family sailors' valentines, and a watercolor class with island artist, Edwin Rudd. A special women's history walking tour was held in honor of Women's History Month in March.

The **Naturalist-in-Training (N.I.T.) program** was re-designed in 2010. The new N.I.T. program strives to give young students skills in animal care, public speaking, and natural science with a hope that they will become volunteers at the MMA and continue to pursue careers in science. Expanded from an Education program of the same name, the new N.I.T. program encompasses activities at the Natural Science Museum, Aquarium, Observatories, and the Education Classes. The



program was open to all former volunteers of any age and new applicants ages 11 to 17. After going through an application process, 39 N.I.T.s were accepted into the program and completed at least one of the week long classes offered throughout the summer. Three N.I.T.s, Isaac Hersch, Ned Manus, and Nicholas Panchy, completed all 10 of

the required classes and are the first Junior Naturalists. Collectively, the group provided 642 volunteer hours to the MMA. Those who completed the program will be asked to return in 2011 to volunteer and mentor N.I.T.s. Christopher Coomey, Mya Kotalac, and Peter Woolverton, all high school N.I.T.s, also completed the program and will be invited back as volunteers.



Members and friends also learn about the natural world of Nantucket through **bird walks** (188 people), **marine ecology walks** (807), **beach combing walks** (75) and **Stargazing Nights** at the Loines Observatory (1245). **MMA's museums and facilities** also saw strong attendance in summer 2010: **Aquarium** (6389), **Natural Science Museum** (1793), **Mitchell House** (1020), **Vestal Street Observatory** (213). This year, the naming contest at the Aquarium featured two blue lobsters. The winning names were "Poseidon" and "Cerulean." The Mitchell House and the Vestal Street Observatory tours were open on weekends through Columbus Day; the Natural Science Museum remained open on weekends through December.

Dr. Vladimir Strelnitski guided an audience at the Nantucket Atheneum through "The Best Astronomical Pictures of the Year" and gave a presentation on "Basics of Celestial Navigation." Professor Richard French (Wellesley College) gave a presentation on Saturn to the REU students and MMA members.



MMA offered field trips and classes to on- and off-island groups. Several classes from the Nantucket Elementary School joined MMA staff to learn about life cycles, habitats, solar system, and animal adaptations. The fourth grade classes traveled to Sankaty Head for a field trip about erosion. MMA provided half-day programs on Wednesday afternoons during the school year to Nantucket elementary students.

Off-island schools included Waldorf School of Belmont, New York School of Interior Design, and The Grammar School, Putney, Vermont.

MMA facilitated connections between Nantucket middle schools – Cyrus Peirce Middle School and the Nantucket Lighthouse School – with Atlantic Rising, a team made up of three young Britons who traveled the 1-meter contour line of the Atlantic Rim in 2009 and 2010. Eighth grade students from both schools connected via technology with eighth grade students from schools around the Atlantic Rim to learn more about different communities' responses to and impacts from rising sea levels.



Science education and history programs ranging from live animals to astronomy were also held at the island's private schools, several pre-schools, the Nantucket Community School, and the Boys and Girls Club. A special Stargazing Night was provided to the students in Nantucket Airport's Aviation Camp.

The Natural Science Department worked with the Nantucket Lighthouse School to design a curriculum on ornithology for its new middle school program. Five programs presented by the Natural Science Department were included in the curriculum.



Sixteen students from Worcester Polytechnic Institute lived at the Maria Mitchell Association in Fall 2010 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. One team of students – Jetta Garrity, Kellen Pastore, and Allison Roche – conducted a study for MMA titled, "An Evaluation of the Effectiveness of Science Field Trips and Hands-On Classroom Activities at the Maria Mitchell Association." The report's findings are being used to continue to improve the quality of field trip and hands-on learning experiences offered in the Nantucket Elementary School science curriculum.

**Citizen Science Projects** invite members and friends to become active participants in the MMA's ongoing research projects. Citizen scientists of all ages joined osprey and barn owl banding trips, the American burying beetle expeditions, and scallop research trips. Volunteers also work in the Observatory to transfer images from the glass slide plate collection to a new digital format.

## ENJOY

### The special events and relationships we celebrate

During the winter months of 2010, MMA Executive Director, Janet Schulte, and MMA Board Vice President, John Daniels, held a series of meetings with 25 Nantucket organizations, agencies, and individuals to present the Vestal Street **Campus Master Plan**. New collaborative programs and exhibits emerged from those discussions, including the idea of the Washington Street land swap between MMA and Nantucket Islands Land Bank. The land swap will allow the MMA to develop a Science Center that will have interactive exhibits on the different habitats of Nantucket designed in collaboration with partnering organizations. A weekly birding trip to Great Point with The Trustees of Reservation also resulted from these meetings.

In March, MMA sponsored a team to compete in the first annual **Nantucket History Bowl**, sponsored by the Nantucket Historical Association. Team members Jascin Leonardo Finger (Mitchell House Curator), Charlotte Maison Kastner (MMA member and library volunteer), and Janet Schulte (Executive Director) placed a respectable third in the competition that include a dozen teams of Nantucket history experts.



**Mt. Auburn Birding**, our fifth annual off-island spring birding experience, was held in the Mount Auburn Cemetery on Monday, May 10<sup>th</sup>. The birders were led by Dr. Bob Kennedy through the beautiful pathways of the historic cemetery grounds. Notable sightings included several Baltimore Orioles whose bright orange plumage popped out against the lovely green spring foliage. A dinner at the Cambridge home of MMA Board member, Bebe Poor, was held the evening before.

The **2010 Birdathon** included three teams of birders who raised over \$14,000, spurred on by a challenge grant from the Nancy Sayles Day Foundation. The funds were used to complete the purchase of museum quality storage cabinets to house the Edith F. Andrews Ornithological Collections. One hundred and twenty species were counted.

The **2010 Annual Meeting** was held at the historic Coffin School on Winter Street on July 1, 2010. Dr. Bob Kennedy rendered a presentation on the osprey

transmitter project to an entranced audience. We heard the story of Mr. Hannah's migrations and were introduced to a second osprey equipped with a transmitter, Señor Bones.



**An Evening with the Stars**, MMA's annual fundraising gala, was held on Sunday, July 11, 2010 at Sankaty Head Golf Club. Wendy Schmidt, the honorary chair of the event, spoke about MMA's important role in enhancing scientific literacy through its programs and facilities. Our special guest for the evening was

Astronaut Fred Gregory, who also gave presentations about his work as an astronaut at the Nantucket Atheneum and the African Meeting House. A special thank you to the many Gala Sponsors whose financial support makes the Gala such a celebratory and outstanding event. The evening featured a silent auction with items ranging from cocktail cruises to signed baseballs to private star parties. More than 200 people attended the Gala with raised funds to support MMA's research, education, and public outreach efforts.



**Maria Mitchell's Birthday Celebration – August 1<sup>st</sup>:**

The annual celebration of Maria Mitchell's birthday included games and activities led by the Environmental Education interns, an appearance by the Martian Cat and skits by the Astronomy REU interns, free tours of the Mitchell House and the Natural Science Museum, a small

touch tank from the Aquarium, the annual exhibit of the Gold Medal, and a special pilgrimage by the summer staff to Maria's gravesite following the day's festivities.

The Vestal Street campus hosted the **Nantucket Preservation Trust Annual August Fête**. Over the course of two hours on a lovely summer evening, over 130 NPT guests visited the Mitchell House, many for the first time. All of the MMA properties on Vestal Street and several of our neighbors' homes were open to the guests. It was a fun and wonderful collaboration for two non-profits and Vestal Street neighbors who all share a commitment to historic preservation.

# Explore, Educate, Enjoy

**Sconset Walks**, led by Dr. Bob Kennedy for members of the 'Sconset Trust, continued into their fourth season including two bird walks and two geology walks.

In 2010, we enjoyed the 7<sup>th</sup> year of a partnership with Rachel and Captain Blair Perkins of Shearwater Excursions for summer **whale and seal trips**.

MMA staffed a table at several of the Saturday morning **Farmer's Markets** organized by Sustainable Nantucket . Environmental Education interns helped visitors make nature crafts and tools with recyclable materials such as soda bottle bird feeders.

MMA provided a touch tank for the first **Nantucket Maritime Festival** sponsored by ReMain Nantucket and Egan Maritime Institute on September 25<sup>th</sup>. Executive Director Janet Schulte facilitated the presence of the team from **Atlantic Rising** to provide children's educational activities at the Festival about sea-level rise. The Atlantic Rising team worked with a local surveyor to tape the projected 2010 mean high tide level on the Brant Point Lighthouse. Dr. Schulte also served as a member of the conference planning committee for the first "Living on the Edge Coastal Communities Conference: Impact of Sea Level Rise" led by ReMain Nantucket and Egan Maritime Institute on September 24<sup>th</sup>.



Our annual **Creepy Crawly Halloween celebration in Hinchman House** featured bobbing for apples from a string, a scar-making table, snake handling, and leaf-rubbing. More than 200 children joined us for the festivities.

**Christmas Stroll at MMA:** Our fifth season celebrating Stroll included a journey to Madaket for wine and cheese while watching the Long-Tailed Duck migration at sunset. Led by Board member and Wildlife Biologist, Dr. Patricia Brennan, a dozen hearty souls braved the winds. Observations of the birds were disappointing, as they were throughout the 2010-2011 winter, since there were few sightings of the birds in migration. Ornithologists are studying the phenomenon of the decreased sightings in 2010-2011. The staff also decorated trees at the NHA Festival of Trees and our traditional outdoor tree in front of Mitchell's Book Corner.



# Our Galaxy of Support

Thank you for your generosity! Your gifts to the Annual Appeal, an Evening with the Stars Gala, membership, and special campaigns and gifts allow MMA to continue a legacy of exploration, education, and research. We are especially grateful to the members of the Maria Mitchell Circle who provide leadership support in their annual giving.

**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 History Museum, the Aquarium, the Mitchell House, Vestal Street Observatory tours, and Stargazing Nights at Loines Observatory; a 10% discount in the museum shops; and a subscription to the E-comet newsletter. For a complete list of 2010 members, please contact the MMA at (508) 228-9198.

There are many ways to give to MMA. Please consider the MMA in your estate plans with a bequest, a gift of stock, mutual funds, securities, IRAs, or other retirement plans; or with a gift of cash, a gift in-kind, or a matching gift from your business/employer. 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 are happy to discuss the options with you. Please contact us at (508) 228-9198.

We strive for accuracy in this list. If your name has been omitted or listed incorrectly, please let us know at (508) 228-9198.

## **ANNUAL APPEAL**

### **\$10,000**

Mr. & Mrs. Amos Hostetter  
The Kenneth & Hazel Roe Foundation

### **\$5,000**

Ms. Susan Baer  
Cox Foundation, Inc.  
Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Cross  
Mr. & Mrs. Hampton S. Lynch Jr.  
Richard Coyle Lilly Foundation  
Ned & Merriellou Symes  
Susan & John Weatherly

### **\$2,500-\$4,999**

Mr. & Mrs. Ward Belcher  
Mr. & Dr. Bernard Brennan V  
Peter & Deb Manus  
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph R. Seiger

### **\$1,000-\$2,499**

Ruth & Robi Blumenstein  
Judy Family Foundation  
Mr. & Mrs. Jack Leonardo  
Mr. & Mrs. Martin McKerrow  
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Menschel  
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Nelson  
Rev. Georgia Ann Snell

### **\$500-999**

Mr. & Mrs. Philip D. Bartlett  
Mr. & Mrs. Jay Bowditch  
Mr. & Mrs. John Cathey

Mr. & Mrs. John L. Daniels  
Mr. Christopher Larson  
Judith F. Lee & Robert Schwarzenbach  
Joan H. Manley  
Mr. & Mrs. William C. Miller IV  
Mr. & Mrs. Mark Tercek  
Ms. Barbara Welther

**\$250-499**

Mr. & Mrs. Doug Abbey  
Ms. Joan R. Bolling  
Mr. Jason Bridges  
Mr. & Mrs. Douglas Brown  
Mr. Chip Carver & Ms. Anne Delaney  
John & Margaret Falk  
Mrs. Paul Gibian  
Drs. Margaret & John Goldman  
Ray & Elizabeth Grubbs  
Isabelle Georgeaux & Patrick Healy  
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Lowry  
Judy Macleod  
Al & Mary Novissimo  
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Ms. Janet E. Schulte  
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Mr. Terrence D. Straub  
Mr. Michael L. Trimpi  
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**\$100-\$249**

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Deborah Stanton & Irene Beach  
Mr. Dwight Beman  
Mary Saffell & Peter Boyce  
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Brome  
Stewart & Lissy Bryan  
Bonnie Buratti  
George & Kathleen Butterworth  
Mr. & Mrs. Ray Carey  
Deborah Crocker  
Amanda Cross  
William & Prudence Crozier  
Dr. & Mrs. Tristram Dammin

Jascin Leonardo & Eric Finger  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Friedman  
Ms. Fay Gambée  
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Mrs. Philip C. Murray  
Anne P. Olsen  
Mr. and Mrs. Henry O'Neill  
Nannette Orr  
Mr. Robert S. Perkin  
Phillip & Margaret Read  
Mr. & Mrs. Kermit Roosevelt  
Roger Roux  
Milton & Roberta Rowland  
Denise & Robert Schwed  
Mrs. John J. B. Shea  
Rachael & Sam Slosek  
Dr. & Mrs. Stephen St. Pierre  
Alexandra Stepanian  
Mrs. Ada B. Strassenburgh  
Landey Strongin  
George Thom  
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Tolsdorf  
Mr. & Mrs. John Wagley  
Nancy G. Walker  
Will & Pam Waller  
Mr. & Mrs. Clark Whitcomb  
Mrs. Mary-Elizabeth Young  
Melanie & Peter Zschau

**Up to \$100 (\$99 or less)**

Mrs. Anne C. Allen  
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Arvay  
Ms. Mary C. Avery

# Our Galaxy of Support

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The Maria Mitchell Circle recognizes individuals who make unrestricted gifts of \$1,000 or more to the Association's Annual Appeal or Membership Drive.

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Suzanne & Bob Wright

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#### **Corona Borealis – \$15,000+**

Dr. Mary A. Poor  
Eric & Wendy Schmidt

#### **Ursa Major – \$5,000**

Mr. & Mrs. Martin McKerrow

#### **Ursa Minor – \$2,500**

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Mr. & Mrs. John Cathey  
Mrs. Paul Gibian  
Mrs. Peggy Gilfoy  
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Greig III  
Mrs. Anne P. Strain

#### **Cassiopeia – \$1,000**

Mr. & Mrs. John Belash  
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Mr. & Mrs. Nathaniel Philbrick  
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Catharine & Jeffrey Soros

Ned & Merriellou Symes  
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# Our Galaxy of Support

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Clay Art Studio  
Diana Kim England Goldsmiths  
Suzanne Duncan & Dave Carpenter  
Dune Restaurant  
Egan Maritime Institute  
Expressions of Don Freedman  
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Heidi Weddendorf Jewelry  
Jodi's Cakes  
Kevin Kuester  
Toni & Martin McKerrow  
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Nantucket Carving and Folk Art.  
Nantucket Golf Club  
Nantucket Historical Association  
Nantucket Honey Bee Company  
Nantucket Looms  
Nantucket Sun Shirts  
Nantucket Woodworking  
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Simon Pierce  
Slip 14  
Stuart Flegg Caretaking/Construction  
Jim Sulzer  
Nancy Thayer  
The Camera Shop  
The Hair Concern  
The Jewelers' Gallery  
The Lion's Paw  
The Trustees of Reservations  
Triple Eight Distillery  
Bill & Hannah Wallace  
Wannacomet Water Company  
Bunny Wullschlegler

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

##### **In Memory of Mimi Beman**

Kathryn & Thomas Pochman  
Ms. Ann Bissinger & Mr. Mark Poor  
Mr. & Mrs. Samuel Shipley III

##### **In Memory of John Cabot**

Mr. & Mrs. Blakeslee S. Barnes

##### **In Honor of Matt Lebowitz's Bar Mitzvah**

Ms. Megan McManemin  
Ms. Emily Miller

##### **In Honor of Toni McKerrow**

Mr. & Mrs. Samuel Shipley III

##### **In Memory of Joan Murray**

The Polpis Association

##### **In Honor of Dr. Mary Poor**

Margaret & Terry Lenzner

##### **In Honor of Anne Strain**

Howard & Maureen N. Blitman

##### **In Honor of Dr. Vladimir Strelnitski**

Ms. Toby Ann Greenberg

##### **In Memory of Mrs. Virginia Charles Swain**

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#### **NANTUCKET SCIENCE CENTER CHALLENGE GRANT**

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Drs. Margaret & John Goldman  
Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Lawler  
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Nancy Sayles Day Foundation  
Margaretta & Jack Noonan  
Nutter McClennen & Fish LLP  
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Josh Posner & Ms. Eileen Rudden  
Caren Lambert & Charlie Ryan  
Mrs. Anne P. Strain

#### **RESEARCH PROJECTS**

##### **AMERICAN BURYING BEETLE**

Norcross Wildlife Foundation  
Richard Reagan  
Roger Williams Park Zoo  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

##### **ANTIQUATE TELESCOPE FUND**

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Rafael E. Osona  
Eric & Wendy Schmidt  
Ms. Judith Seinfeld

##### **ARCHIVES AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS**

Anonymous  
M.S. Worthington Foundation, Inc  
Kathryn Pochman, in memory of Mimi Chilton Havemeyer Beman  
Happy Shipley, in memory of Mimi Chilton Havemeyer Beman

# Our Galaxy of Support

Happy Shipley, in honor of Toni B. McKerrow  
Clarissa Porter

## **BARN OWL BOXES**

Marcia & Joseph Aguiar  
Howard & Maureen N. Blitman  
Ms. Tamara Munk

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Mr. and Mrs. Mark Aguiar  
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Mrs. Edith Andrews  
Mr. David N. Barrett  
Kenneth S. Blackshaw  
Ms. Karen Borchert  
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Mrs. Grier Miller  
Nancy Sayles Day Foundation  
Nantucket Rotary Club  
Ann Radding  
Mr. David Ryan Landscaping

Mr. Paul Serprenant  
Nancy Jenks Sevrems  
Noreen C. Slavitz  
Lynn Zimmerman & George Thomas  
Mr. Terry Walsh  
Mrs. Mona Wheatly  
Ms. Elaine C. Wiley  
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Wodynski

## **HARVESTMAN BIODIVERSITY PROJECT**

Nantucket Biodiversity Initiative

## **MITCHELL HOUSE CHIMNEY CONSERVATION**

Community Preservation Act

## **OSPREY RESEARCH PROJECT**

Anonymous donations to The Trustees  
of Reservations  
Atkinson Family Foundation

## **RESEARCH EXPERIENCE FOR UNDERGRADUATES (ASTRONOMY)**

National Science Foundation

## **SCALLOP RESEARCH**

Shellfish and Harbor Advisory Board  
Nancy Sayles Day Foundation  
Nantucket Shellfish Association

## **SNAKES**

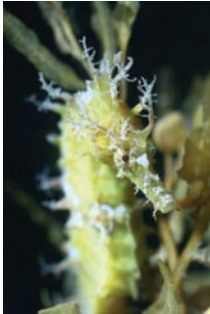
Nantucket Biodiversity Initiative

## **SPECIAL THANKS**

Nantucket Carving & Folk Art  
(Aquarium Sign)  
Mr. David Goodman (Aquarium Sign)  
Greg Maskell (Landscaping)

## FOUNDATIONS AND ORGANIZATIONS

Admiral Sir Isaac Coffin Lancasterian School  
Anonymous  
The Archibald Family Foundation  
Barr Foundation  
Community Preservation Act  
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Nantucket Biodiversity Initiative  
Nantucket Garden Club  
Nantucket Golf Club Foundation  
Nantucket Islands Land Bank  
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Nantucket Shellfish Association  
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Richard Coyle Lilly Foundation  
Roger Williams Park Zoo  
Shellfish and Harbor Advisory Board  
The M.S. Worthington Foundation, Inc.  
The Norcross Wildlife Foundation, Inc  
US Fish and Wildlife Service  
Vanguard Group Foundation  
The Gilbert Verney Foundation



## GIFTS TO THE COLLECTIONS OF THE MARIA MITCHELL ASSOCIATION

The Mitchell House Special Collections and Archives accepted seven gifts in 2010:

1. Nancy Giragosian, plants for Mitchell House garden restoration
2. Kathy Dexter and Daniel Badger, Judy Seinfeld, Wendy and Eric Schmidt, and an anonymous donor, with the help of Rafael Osona, funds to purchase a Plössl en Wien telescope that may have been used by Maria Mitchell
3. Dan Drake, Lydia Hinchman's *Early Settlers of Nantucket*, 1896, inscribed by the author
4. Grace Gibson Newcomer, Beatrice Gormley's *Maria Mitchell*, inscribed by the author
5. Todd Stout Cabinetry, six pieces of various woods for interpretive use in Mitchell House
6. Caren Lambert, plants for Mitchell House garden restoration
7. James Storrow, bronze copy of bust of Maria Mitchell at Vassar College, original sculpted in 1877 by Emma Brigham

The Astronomy Department accepted the donation of a six-inch Newtonian telescope.

# Financial Report

The Nantucket Maria Mitchell Association  
Statement of Financial Position  
December 31, 2010  
(With summarized Financial Information for 2009)

<b>Assets</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2009</b>
Cash and cash equivalents	\$518,963	\$348,292
Inventories	2,878	3,876
Other receivables	5,085	2,899
Employee receivable	10,000	20,000
Investments	3,488,924	2,534,634
Beneficial interest in real estate trust	318,000	318,000
Remainder interest in property	413,240	397,460
Deferred expenses	-	7,500
Property, plant, and equipment, net	5,213,327	3,124,330
	<u>\$9,970,417</u>	<u>\$6,756,991</u>
<b>Liabilities and Net Assets</b>		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$105,829	\$26,765
<b>Net assets</b>		
Unrestricted	7,046,999	4,134,391
Temporarily restricted	888,950	667,196
Permanently restricted	1,928,639	1,928,639
Total net assets	<u>9,864,588</u>	<u>6,730,226</u>
	<u>\$9,970,417</u>	<u>\$6,756,991</u>

The Nantucket Maria Mitchell Association  
Statement of Activities  
Year ended December 31, 2010  
(With Summarized Financial Information for 2009)

<b>Operating activities:</b>	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	2010	2009
<b>Revenue and support</b>					
Programs	\$182,306	-	-	\$ 182,306	\$ 148,390
Admissions	41,436	-	-	41,436	39,030
Museum Shop	23,045	-	-	23,045	21,669
Memberships	101,176	-	-	101,176	95,428
Grants	7,529	217,101	-	224,630	268,818
Contributions	150,312	206,061	-	356,373	168,727
Special events	125,696	-	-	125,696	84,497
Investment return designated for operations	270,000	-	-	270,000	223,000
Rental income	7,615	-	-	7,615	7,954
Interest income	1,468	-	-	1,468	1,432
Net assets released from restriction - Satisfaction of program restrictions	\$201,344	(201,344)	-	-	-
<b>Total revenue and support</b>	<b>1,111,927</b>	<b>221,818</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,333,745</b>	<b>1,058,945</b>
<b>Expenses</b>					
Program services	1,088,946	-	-	\$1,088,946	\$945,740
Management and general	159,702	-	-	\$ 159,702	\$ 168,001
Fundraising and capital campaign	93,659	-	-	\$ 93,659	\$ 97,701
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>1,342,307</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,342,307</b>	<b>1,211,442</b>
<b>Change in net assets from operating activities</b>	<b>(230,380)</b>	<b>221,818</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(8,562)</b>	<b>(152,497)</b>
<b>Non-operating activities:</b>					
Investment return, less amounts designated for operations	14,847	-	-	14,847	281,133
Contributions and grants restricted for capital activities	-	15,800	-	15,800	-
Gain on sale and disposition of assets	3,096,497	-	-	3,096,497	-
Donation of remainder interest in property	-	15,780	-	15,780	8,360
Net assets released from restriction Satisfaction of capital restrictions	31,644	(31,644)	-	-	-
<b>Change in net assets from non-operating activities</b>	<b>3,142,988</b>	<b>(64)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3,142,924</b>	<b>226,493</b>
<b>Change in net assets</b>	<b>2,912,608</b>	<b>221,754</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3,134,362</b>	<b>73,996</b>
<b>Net assets, beginning of year</b>	<b>4,134,391</b>	<b>667,196</b>	<b>1,928,639</b>	<b>6,730,226</b>	<b>6,656,230</b>
<b>Net assets, end of year</b>	<b>\$7,046,999</b>	<b>\$ 888,950</b>	<b>\$ 1,928,639</b>	<b>\$9,864,588</b>	<b>\$6,730,226</b>

The financial statements for 2010 have been audited by Bollus & Lynch, LLP, who have rendered an unqualified opinion on them. Complete financial statements are available on request.

## MMA BOARD OF MANAGERS

### Officers:

Toni B. McKerrow, President  
(until August 2010)  
Malcolm W. MacNab, MD, PhD  
(August 2010 - )  
John L. Daniels, First Vice President  
Patty Gibian, Second Vice President  
Judith G. Belash, Clerk  
Michael Nelson, Treasurer

### Honorary Vice Presidents:

Eileen McGrath  
Robert W. Noyes, PhD

### Managers:

#### Term Expires

2010	Bebe Archibald Poor, DVM Toni B. McKerrow
2011	Judith G. Belash Howard N. Blitman Dennis Cross Peggy Gilfoy (resigned) Margaret B. Goldman, PhD Malcolm W. MacNab, MD, PhD Eileen Rudden
2012	Lisa Clarey-Lawler Patty Gibian Michael Nelson Anne Parks Strain
2013	Patricia L.R. Brennan, PhD John L. Daniels Deborah Manus
2014	Caren Lambert, PhD Geoffrey Silva Edward Symes III

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Caroline Ellis  
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Candy Greig, Auction co-chair  
Betsy Grubbs  
Toni McKerrow  
Bebe Archibald Poor  
Rachel Rasfeld  
Janet Schulte  
Esta-Lee Stone  
Tara Vittone  
Hannah Wallace, Auction co-chair  
Isabella Wagley

## MMA STAFF

### Administration

Janet E. Schulte, PhD, Executive Director  
Rachel Rasfeld, Public Relations & Events  
Coordinator (January-June 2010)  
Isabella Wagley, Marketing and  
Development Associate (appointed  
May 2010)  
Joan Alison Stockman, Financial  
Administrator  
Elizabeth G. Grubbs, *Carvin Associates*,  
Development

### Astronomy

Vladimir Strelnitski, PhD, Director of  
Astronomy  
Nan Strelnitski, Observatory Assistant  
Gary Walker, Telescope Engineer &  
Astronomer  
David Sliski, NSF Presidential Award Mentor

### Education

Jascin N. Leonardo Finger, MA, Interim  
Director of Education (January-May 2010)  
Jenny Mayberry, MA, Summer Discovery  
Program Director (May-September 2010)

## **Mitchell House**

Jascin N. Leonardo Finger, MA, Curator

## **Natural Sciences**

Robert S. Kennedy, PhD, Director of  
Natural Sciences (Until October 2010);  
Senior Research Fellow

Andrew McKenna-Foster, MS, Director of  
Natural Science Education and  
Programs (Appointed September 2010)

Edith F. Andrews, MS, Ornithologist  
Emeritus

Valerie A. Hall, Research Associate

Peter B. Boyce, PhD, Research Associate

Cheryl Comeau Beaton, Director,  
Maria Mitchell Aquarium

Andrew McKenna-Foster, MS, Director of  
Natural Science Museum (May-  
September 2010)

W. Forrest Kennedy, BS, Aquarium  
Advisor

## **2010 INTERNS**

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

Megan Bedell, Haverford College  
Dustin Cassel, Shippensburg University  
Adam Michael, Wesleyan University  
Stephanie Sallum, MIT  
Kamber Schwarz, University of Arizona  
Alexa Villaume, Bennington College  
Michi Baubock, Boston University,  
NSF Presidential Award Mentor

### **Aquarium**

Kimberly Gonzales, Boston University  
Abigail Jacobs, BS, University of Maine  
Stephen O' Brien, BA UMass Lowell  
Hannah Siebens, Vassar College  
Samantha Aguiar, University of Vermont  
(scallop research)

### **Education**

#### *Environmental Educators:*

Jamie Buck, University of Pittsburg  
Casey Carlson, Colby College  
Julie Findlay, Trinity College

Meredith Morgan, Earlham College  
Ashley Marshall, BA, Boston College  
Jennifer Myles, North Park University  
*Private Programs Coordinator:*  
Joseph LaManna, MS, Humboldt  
State University

### **Marketing and Public Relations**

Andrew Royer, Cooperstown (NY)  
Graduate Program

### **Mitchell House**

Maureen McVeigh, AB, Mount  
Holyoke College

### **MMA Marine Science Intern**

Oliver Bender, Junior, Nantucket High School  
Mercy Paine, Sophomore, Glenholm School

### **Natural Science Museum**

Samantha Alger, BA, University of  
Rhode Island  
Julia Blyth, BA, Ohio Wesleyan University  
Meredith Steck, AB, Bowdoin College

## **VOLUNTEERS**

### **Astronomy**

Steven Bopp  
Tom Calderwood

### **Mitchell House**

Madison Duce  
Susan Dupree, docent  
Maris Humphreys, rare book cataloger

### **Natural Science Volunteers**

Marcia Aguiar	Ornithology
Ginger Andrews	Ornithology
Harry Bartlett	Ornithology
Kenneth T. Blackshaw	Ornithology
Rachel Dacks	Scallops/Marine Science
Das Durgama-Lescault	Horseshoe Crabs
Lalita Durgama-Lescault	Horseshoe Crabs Museum
Will Halik	Museum
Forrest Kennedy	Marine Science
Scott Leonard	Horseshoe Crabs
Erik Lokensgard	Scallops
Martin McKerrow	Scallops

# Board and Staff

Herb Mittenenthal Ornithology  
Peter Morrison Scallops  
Jerry Newhouse Horseshoe Crabs  
Justine Paradis Harvestmen Project  
Michelle Perkins Horseshoe Crabs  
Mike Schwed Scallops  
Sandy Spencer Scallops/Horseshoe  
Crabs/Ospreys/Barn  
Owls  
Jessie Sayles West Scallops  
Esme Till Museum and NIT  
Program  
Claire Winship Museum and Education

## **Volunteers through the Naturalist-in- Training Program**

Thomas Carroll  
Katherine Castle  
Christopher Coomey  
Sarah Coomey  
Dominic Costanzo  
Sadie Goetze  
Isaac Hersh  
Claire Heuberger  
Anne Jennings  
James Jennings  
Delly Jones  
Harriet Ketchen  
Mya Kotalac  
Sophie Kuhl  
Heyward Lathrop  
Matt Lebowitz  
Oliver Long  
Nora Loughlin  
Ned Manus  
Bryn Melanson  
Eunna Oh  
Inna Oh  
Nicholas Panchy  
Crawford Patton  
Sarah Paulsen  
Madeleine Phillips  
Matthew Pickard  
Will Pincince

Morgan Ravenscroft  
Tristram Ravenscroft  
Laura Recoder  
Natasha Recoder  
Claude Ropitzky  
Charles Ryan  
Christine Seibert  
Otto Sendelbach  
Rebecca Simantov  
Grace Sullivan  
Peter Woolverton

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Kenneth Blackshaw  
Jordan Concannon Bledsoe  
Mary Ann Dober  
Ronnie M. Elwell  
Fay Gambee  
Barbara Kates-Garnick  
Candy Greig  
Elvira Harden  
Dolly Howell  
Jack Kennedy  
Judith Lee  
Jim Lowe  
Tricia Lowe  
Karen MacNab  
Martin McKerrow  
Greg Maskell  
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## 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 unique natural history. Our collaborating organizations are:

American Association of Variable Star Observers  
Artists Association of Nantucket  
Boston University  
Captain Jeremy Pochman and Wendy Schmidt, *Equus*  
Children's House of Nantucket  
City University of New York  
Egan Maritime Institute  
Harvard University Museum of Comparative Zoology  
Linda Loring Nature Foundation  
Massachusetts Audubon Society  
Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries  
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 Public Schools  
Nantucket Preservation Trust  
Nantucket Shellfish Association  
Nantucket Shipwreck and Lifesaving Museum  
National Grid  
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