

The Maria Mitchell Association

2016 Annual Report

Nantucket's Science Center



**Maria
Mitchell**
Association
Nantucket's
Science Center

mariamitchell.org

Maria Mitchell



There will come with the greater love of science greater love to one another. Living more nearly to Nature is living farther from the world and its follies, but nearer to the world's people; it is to be of them, and for them, and especially for their improvement.

Maria Mitchell

Mission Statement



The mission of the Nantucket Maria Mitchell Association is to promote 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 nineteenth 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.

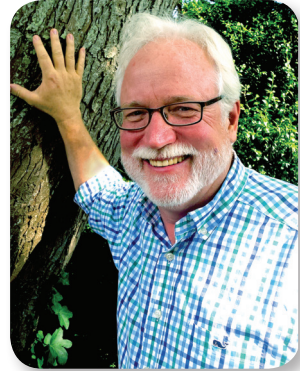
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Executive Director's Report

Dear Friends of the Maria Mitchell Association:

For so many people, the Maria Mitchell Association is their “science center” – providing a chance to discover something new, finding the joy of exploring an interest in science, and meeting people with similar curiosities and passions. Children, students, and adults have access to a wide range of rare and interesting opportunities to satisfy their curiosity through education and research at the Maria Mitchell Association.



This year brought a major challenge to one of our hallmark research and educational institutions. For almost fifty years, the Maria Mitchell Association has offered Open Nights and conducted important research at the Loines Observatory. Thousands of visitors – often for the first time in their lives – experience the thrill of observing the night sky through our extraordinary telescopes. They are able to view fascinating celestial bodies located, in some cases, millions of light years away, as well as the ever popular and magical planets in our own solar system.

If you had been following many of the Maria Mitchell Association's social media posts and articles in the Nantucket *Inquirer and Mirror*, you would have learned that the Town of Nantucket was planning to move electrical poles and wires across the street and directly in front of the Observatory. This move would have blocked access to the southern skies and many important and interesting celestial objects. We needed to act, and act quickly.

The Maria Mitchell Association, our devoted members, and supporters located on island and around the world rallied in protest. Using social media and reaching out directly to our supporters, over 1,300 people responded by signing an online petition, making hundreds of calls to the Town of Nantucket, and writing personal e-mails to the Nantucket Board of Selectmen. After only two days, the Town of Nantucket agreed to implement alternatives that would ensure that access to the night skies are maintained at the Loines Observatory. The protest and end result were a huge success, demonstrating the power we all have when we work together for a common goal.

We are deeply appreciative of your support and encouragement. Thank you for helping us to ensure that science education and research opportunities will always be available to the thousands of children, students, and adults who have a passion for learning and the curiosity to discover something new.

Sincerely yours,

David Gagnon

Astronomy

The year 2016 proved to be a year full of changes for the astronomy department. Dr. Regina Jorgenson, a former MMO REU student (1997), returned to Nantucket in her new role as Director of the Observatory and is thrilled to be leading the program that once inspired her to become a professional astronomer.

The Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) program, generously sponsored by the National Science Foundation, received a record 202 applications from students around the country. After the arduous task of reviewing the applications and conducting phone interviews, six top students were chosen:

- Derrick Carr (Haverford College)
- Francesca Childs (Harvard University)
- Holly Christenson (Western Washington University)
- Tarini Konchady (Johns Hopkins University)
- Sanaea Rose (Wellesley College)
- Tanveer Karim (University of Rochester)



Each student chose an individual research project – with topics ranging from stars to quasars and galaxy formation to cosmology – and was mentored by Dr. Jorgenson, Gary Walker, and, in some cases, an additional affiliated astronomer. This summer, we were joined by four affiliated astronomers:

- Dr. Andrew Fox (Space Telescope Science Institute)
- Dr. Stella Kafka (American Association of Variable Star Observers)
- Dr. Kathy Rhode (Indiana University, MMO REU alumni, MMA Board Member)
- Dr. Vladimir Strel'nitski (MMO Director Emeritus)

All six REU students presented their research at the winter meeting of the American Astronomical Society in Grapevine, Texas. Several of the students turned their MMO research projects into senior theses and five of the six students will begin graduate studies in astrophysics in Fall 2017. In Fall 2016, Dr. Jorgenson modernized the REU application system by creating an online system that will save significant time for both applicants and staff going forward.

In addition to our normal public Open Nights, the MMO ran several private events at the Loines Observatory, hosting groups from local and off-island schools, camps, scout troops, and special events like the Nantucket Women's Choir performance at the Observatory.

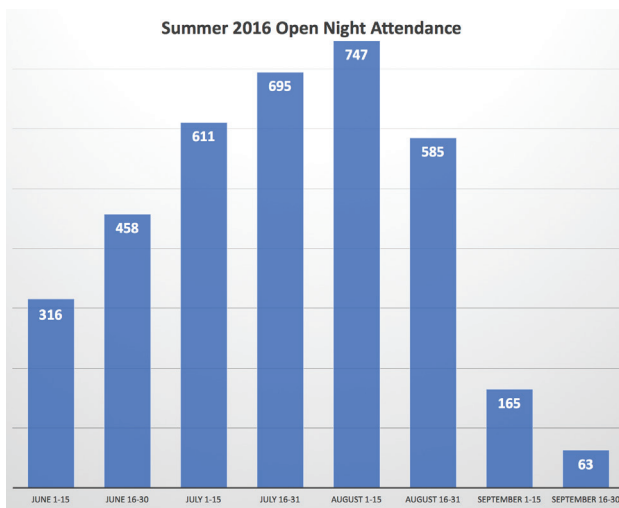
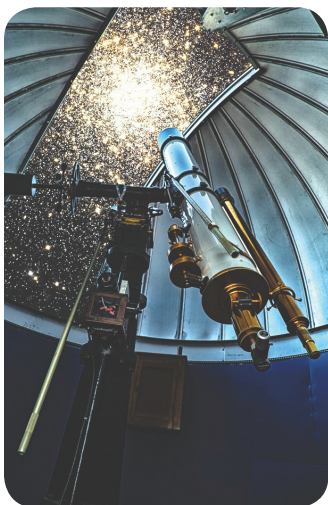
Astronomy

Loines Observatory was briefly threatened by the installation of new utility poles on the Observatory side of Milk Street. However, a public media campaign that culminated in the collection of over 1,300 signatures of support on an online petition, saved the Observatory's unobstructed view of the southern skies.

This year we hosted two Field Work Term (FWT) students from Bennington College in January and February, Amanda Bacon and Connor McElravy. They used the MMO's 17-inch telescope to conduct research on a set of peculiar variable stars.

Dr. Jorgenson was featured in the June issue of *N Magazine*, the winter issue of *Nantucket Today*, and was interviewed by both local and national radio stations and *The Inquirer and Mirror*. In addition to writing several articles for local publications (*Nantucket Sound Magazine*), Dr. Jorgenson served on a professional scientific committee for the National Science Foundation, and on time allocation committees for the National Optical Astronomy Observatories and the Space Telescope Science Institute. She also acted as a manuscript referee for the journals *Science*, *Astrophysical Journal*, and *Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society*. Gary Walker continued to serve in his role as secretary of the American Association of Variable Star Observers.

Public observing Open Nights at Loines Observatory were extremely popular and successful – we hosted a record 3,640 visitors over the summer months, with the largest single night attendance of 747 visitors! The Wednesday Science Speaker Series was a hit, with all visiting astronomers and the REU students giving public lectures on their research.



Aquarium, Natural Science Museum, and Programs

This year saw a change in the leadership of the department. After many years of service, Andrew McKenna-Foster left the MMA to further his academic goals. Dr. Emily Goldstein Murphy assumed the position in mid-August.

The Natural Science Department continued its goals of preserving and displaying the biodiversity of Nantucket County and conducting research on invertebrates, snakes, birds, and marine biodiversity. Virginia “Ginger” Andrews, has followed in her mother’s footsteps to fill the role of the MMA’s Field Ornithologist. Ginger led “Early-Bird Bird Walks” on Tuesdays and Fridays throughout the summer season, as well as participating in the Birdathon Fundraiser in April. Ginger continued to offer bird walks into the fall and winter season and developed a new night-time program called the “Owl Prowl” in which participants are taken to areas of high owl activity and recordings are played of their calls to illicit a response.

Summer visitation to the Aquarium and Natural Science Museum were similar compared to 2015. The summer weather was exceptional with very few rainy days, which likely suppressed admission levels. The properties pass program continued and helped to achieve revenue through admissions at the Mitchell House, Aquarium, Natural Science Museum, and Vestal Street Observatory. The gift shops nearly doubled their revenue from 2015, earning \$11,370 in the Aquarium and \$3,054 in the Natural Science Museum.

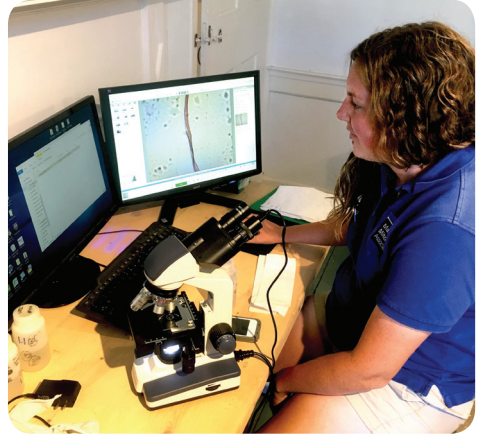
Staff continued work on the eelgrass project, started by Andrew McCandless, to determine the effects of moorings on eelgrass. Aquarium interns and high school interns assisted in the effort. Also, in collaboration with the Nantucket Conservation Foundation, museum staff continued a project to determine vertebrate mammalian scavenger rates on Nantucket using wildlife cameras. Ongoing research continued in marine biodiversity, snake surveys, and American burying beetle population monitoring (a project conducted in collaboration with the Roger Williams Park Zoo, RI).

The MMA led a collaboration of local conservation groups in mentoring students and organizing the high school STEM Fair. With five excellent projects, the Fair was considered a success. One group from the STEM Fair brought their project to the state science fair and received an honorable mention.

Natural Science

Aquarium

We would like to thank all of the fishermen and charter captains listed on the MMA Scientific Permit for their donations of specimens to the Aquarium. They brought in several great creatures including striped bass, skates, smooth dogfish, and black sea bass. Marc Genthner from the *Just Do It II* was particularly helpful with large fish and Josh Eldridge from the “Critter Cruise” assisted with invertebrates.



Andrew McKenna-Foster hosted a visit from the youth board of the Triad Foundation in early August. As a result of this successful visit, the MMA Aquarium was awarded a \$15,000 matching grant to be used to support “research projects, provide opportunities for students, assisting visiting scientists with field work, and maintenance of the research boat.” The matching grant was announced at the Aquarium Breakfast and attendees donated \$5,000 towards the matching grant.

We held a public release day on September 3 that was very popular with over 300 people attending the three-hour event. This event returns all the Aquarium’s aquatic life back to the harbor. We continued to publicize the Triad Foundation matching grant and completed the match in October.

Biological Collections

Julia Blyth, MMA Collection Manager, prepared fifteen bird specimens of the thirty specimens we accepted for the collection. She also began preparing a seal skull, and prepared the specimen of the first long-eared bat to be found on Nantucket. The bat was found near Hummock Pond.

In addition to the birds and the bat, the collection accepted fifteen other specimens including nine gray squirrels, four brown rats, a ring neck snake, a bullfrog, and the head of a leatherback sea turtle, which was given to us by Bob Prescott of the Wellfleet, MA Audubon after its necropsy on Madaket Beach.





School Programs

The MMA continued to provide education programs throughout the school year for island children in grades 1-5. In 2016, the MMA offered three afterschool series including *Moons and Monsoons* and *Animals, Authors & Art* for grades K-2 and a traveling *After School Discovery* series for children ages 7-11 years old. Classroom programs included *Reptile Round-Up* for 3rd graders enrolled in the Enrichment Cluster, *Bird Adaptations* for all 4th grade classes at the Nantucket Elementary School, and *Trees and the Community* to all 5th grade classes in both public and private schools. Additionally, we provided several field trips including *Beach Exploration* for all public school kindergarteners and *Marine Invertebrates* for 5th graders from the Nantucket Lighthouse School.

Discovery Camp

In 2016, MMA's Discovery Camp continued to grow for the third consecutive summer. We were able to simultaneously reduce the number of camp spaces offered throughout the summer and still fill more spaces overall. We did this by reducing the number of camps opened for registration at the beginning of the season and adding more spaces where the demand was greatest.



Education

Thanks to the generosity of EGCF, a nonprofit foundation, we were able to provide more scholarships than ever before! In 2016, we awarded a total of twenty-six scholarships compared to twenty in 2015 and eight in 2014. These scholarships had a total value of \$12,393. Eight scholarships provided an 80% reduction in camp costs and eighteen provided 100% of the camp cost as part of an effort to reach more English language learning families.

Patricia Harding, from the Nantucket Elementary School, once again helped make this program possible by connecting us to families with the greatest need.

egcf

State-Wide Efforts

In 2016, with less than one year of service on the board, the MMA's Director of Education, Kim Botelho, was voted to serve as Clerk of the Massachusetts Environmental Education Society. In her first year on the board, she oversaw the redevelopment of massmees.org and launched "Share and Shine," an effort to share environmental education programs and acknowledge the work of formal and non-formal teachers promoting environmental literacy across the Commonwealth.

The Adam Bloom Scholarship Fund

Thanks to the generosity of Susan and Howard Bloom, and their family, friends, and others who contributed funds to honor the memory of Adam Bloom, the MMA was able to offer full scholarships to the 2016 Winter Discovery Camp. This marked the launch of this new scholarship opportunity that will be available for future vacation camps for years to come.



According to Susan and Howard Bloom, "Throughout Adam's life, he had a keen interest in the world around him. He could often be found with his sister and friends, exploring the beaches and marshes throughout Nantucket looking for crabs, fish, and any other creatures they could find. His passion was inspired by his participation in many of the camp programs at the Maria Mitchell Association. As a child, Adam could be found continuing or repeating the activities that he learned to do at camp that day. He was a budding young naturalist." The Adam Bloom Scholarship Fund will enable island children the opportunity to enjoy these very popular camps and experience the joy of learning by doing on our beautiful island.

Mitchell House, Archives & Special Collections



This year was busy. We continued with our Mitchell House Children's programs for the summer, as well as numerous historic preservation workshops and walks all year long – several of them working collaboratively with other island groups including the Nantucket Preservation Trust, Prospect Hill Cemetery Association, and the Nantucket Historical Association – and with other MMA departments. One new summer

class for families was a “Mitchell House at Night” class in which a small group was allowed to tour the Mitchell House in the dark – with only a few “candles” to light the way – and which ended with some ghost stories in the attic. Chills up the spine were welcome on the hot nights that the class was held! And to wrap up the summer season, the MMA Deputy Director and Mitchell House Curator, Jascin Leonardo Finger, presented the last in the MMA's Science Speaker Series with a talk about Nantucket women based on her research and the publication of her book: *The Daring Daughters of Nantucket Island*.

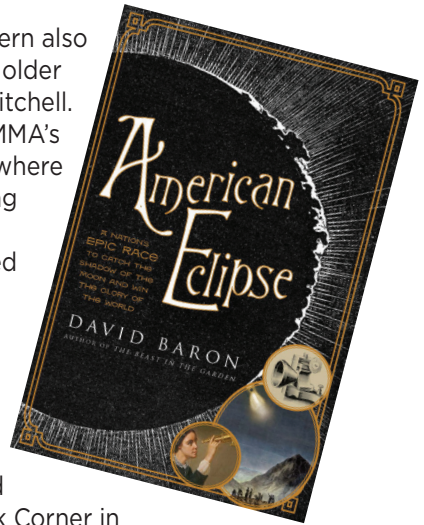
The Mitchell House was the hub for all things related to Maria Mitchell's birthday. Invitations and posters were created, live music and a falconry demonstration were planned, and cake, cookies, and even the old punch recipe returned to much success. We welcomed over 200 people to Vestal Street on Maria Mitchell's birthday – a return to what the birthdays once were. All buildings were open free to the public from 1 - 4 PM.

On the conservation front, projects to clean and stabilize the House continued. Some of the projects included summer intern, Nikki Lohr, finishing the cleaning and cataloging of the Nantucket books donated by Reva and Mort Schlesinger in 2015 – a very large collection and no easy task – that was begun in the summer of 2015 when the donation was made. Weekly cleanings of the House and artifacts continued, including the detailed cleaning of several donations made by Virginia Andrews which included a child's doll cart and potty chair. A very exciting donation was made of a Mitchell family baby camlet and infant's cap that were passed down through the family via the oldest daughter since 1733. The donation was made by Mitchell family descendant Augusta Talbott and was an emotional and tremendous moment.



Mitchell House, Archives & Special Collections

During the summer with us, the Mitchell House intern also worked on the creation of several lesson plans for older students using primary sources related to Maria Mitchell. These lesson plans will be made available on the MMA's website in 2017 under the "For Students" section where Mitchell House maintains a bibliography concerning Maria Mitchell, as well as a timeline related to her life. Additionally, the intern researched and created a small exhibit titled "The Cabinet of Curiosities." Housed in the shelves of William Mitchell's desk, it detailed Maria Mitchell's European travels and remained on display through the fall. The Curator and Deputy Director continued to work on her research into island women and the sale of her book continued to go very well both on island and online. She was invited to speak at Mitchell's Book Corner in March concerning her research and was asked to be one of the authors in the "Author's Tent" at the Nantucket Book Festival. Additionally, she was invited to present at a new women's think tank, ChathamWISE, for women from academia, healthcare, government, the private and public sector, non-profits, and industry. She spoke in May with the attendees about Maria Mitchell and legacy. Leonardo Finger continues to keep a column for the online magazine "Nantucket Chronicle" and continues to write her weekly blog for the MMA, "Maria Mitchell's Attic," both of which have a dedicated following.



Throughout the year, Mitchell House was busy with research inquiries and requests for use of historic images in multiple publications. These included *American Eclipse* by David Baron and published by W.W. Norton and another book on eclipses from Pegasus Books. Maria Mitchell was featured on the cover of *American Eclipse*. Several researchers visited the MMA to use the archives and the curator conducted remote research for those who could not travel to the island, and of course answered many questions from students of all ages doing projects on Maria Mitchell. All research and photographic use garners a small income for the Archives via the fees instituted. We also assisted with an article in *Bird Observer* about Edith Folger Andrews and were contacted by a New Zealand television show about a potential site visit.

Special Group Tours

Several special groups visited the Mitchell House in 2016 for tours and other special activities. These included a Vassar College reunion group who live in the Boston area, a special winter tour for a fifth grade girl from off-island doing a project on Maria Mitchell, the Nantucket Women's Group Open Night at Loines Observatory, and our annual tour with the Preservation Institute Nantucket students.

Facilities

This was the year for preservation, maintenance, conservation, and repair of MMA facilities on Vestal Street in particular. All of the sites need regular maintenance and repair considering their heavy use and the fact that most of them date to the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Thanks to a one to one matching grant from the Massachusetts Cultural Facilities Fund, the MMA was able to place focus on two properties in great need - Hinchman House and the Astronomer's Cottage. Work will continue with this funding into 2017 and 2018.



Research Center: This major project continues to move forward. Once the building permit was acquired in April 2016 - after a lengthy process with the Architectural Access Board and code issues - we could begin the work to the interior and address the handicapped accessibility needs. This also required HDC approvals. Cabinetry began to be built and work to the structural support system was completed - the final engineering and the execution - which required the carpenter, mason, and engineer. HVAC plans were finalized and the augmenting of the Main Room and bathroom began, as well as the cutting of a doorway to connect both basements. The preservation easement on the exterior was also completed and approved by the Town. This easement allows the MMA to better preserve the structure, allows for lighter touches with relation to building codes, and garnered the MMA funding for the exterior work of the building with grant money from the Community Preservation Act. Nantucket Preservation Trust holds the easement. And finally, the former circulating collection of books was sent off-island for mold remediation. When they return, the Curator and Deputy Director, Jascin Leonardo Finger, will complete the final stage in the process by vacuuming all books before re-shelving them.

Facilities

Hinchman House: Work included replacement and repair of all gutters and downspouts, painting of all exterior trim and sashes, replacement of one dormitory shower and bathroom flooring, installation of a drywell in driveway workspace area and gravel installation, installation of a pit pump that attaches to a leach field and also serves Research Center drainage, installation of new carpeting in former Gift Shop (now classroom area), various carpentry repairs inside and outside, new cabinet doors for shelving in former Gift Shop area, dormitory supplies for kitchen including two new refrigerators, and installation of a new basement door. With a grant from the M.S. Worthington Foundation, interior painting was completed.

Drake Cottage: This building was the recipient of new linens for visiting groups in the off-season, supplies for dormitory kitchen, new lighting in dormitory bathrooms, new curtains in Board room/offices, and various carpentry, plumbing, and electrical work.

Maria Mitchell (MMO) and Loines Observatories: These buildings saw the re-roofing and re-shingling of the Seminar Room portion of the MMO, structural assessment of the MMO for future work, various carpentry and electrical repairs, new signs and posts with chains installed at Loines.

Aquarium: Repairs to the front porch and railings were made.

Washington Street Properties: In staff housing, a new washer/dryer were installed and various carpentry and plumbing repairs were made throughout the site.

Astronomer's Cottage: A light renovation of the interior included electrical work, interior painting, carpentry, new flooring for bathrooms and kitchen, update of first floor kitchen, re-introduction of first floor bathroom's original claw-foot tub (was stored in basement for many years), painting of exterior trim and sashes, new gutters and downspouts, drywell in rear, re-roofing, re-shingling, repointing of foundation at kitchen ell, replacement of back porch, professional washing of all windows, various plumbing and carpentry work, structural assessment of foundation and supporting first floor members.



Development & Communications

Corporate Sponsorship Package

An eight-page booklet was published offering a variety of business sponsorship levels of support and associated benefits. In total, the MMA offered sponsorship for *Annual Corporate Support, The Nantucket Red-Tie Soirée, Events and Programs Book, Science Lecture Series, and the Research Center*. Sponsorship levels ranged from as little as \$250 so that all-sized businesses could participate. A total of 725 packets, along with a return reply card and a letter from the Executive Director, were mailed to a list comprised of vendors and members of the Nantucket Chamber of Commerce.



Retail Opportunities for Buttons

A series of buttons highlighting fun science facts and information about the MMA have been produced and are now being sold at participating outlets on the Island. The buttons are 3" wide with a variety of themes. The initial run was twelve styles. The buttons retail for \$5 each.



Loines Rental Program

To attract new audiences and revenue, a new brochure was produced to promote private party rentals of Loines Observatory. The brochure was distributed to hotels, B&B's, concierge services, caterers, event planners, and others professionals in the food and beverage industry.

Grant Highlights

In total, the MMA submitted twenty grants requesting \$553,300. It received \$336,835 in awards. Among the notable grants was the receipt of a matching grant for \$117,000 from the Massachusetts Cultural Facilities Fund. This grant will be used to complete

repairs and maintenance on the Vestal Street properties. This year, we also received \$75,000 from an anonymous, donor-advised fund. The grant will be used towards the Research Center.

Development & Communications



With a \$9,500 grant from The Community Foundation for Nantucket's ReMain Nantucket Fund, the MMA operated a shuttle from three locations in downtown Nantucket to Loines Observatory each Friday night starting on June 17 and continuing through the end of September. The shuttle, operated by Gail's Tours, made pick-ups at the MMA Aquarium, Visitor Information Center, and Nantucket Hotel. The van was marked with magnetic signs affixed to the side and brochures about the shuttle were distributed throughout the downtown area, including the concierge desks at area hotels.

The Nantucket Red-Tie Soirée

The Nantucket Red-Tie Soirée was held on Sunday, July 10 from 7 - 10 pm at the Sankaty Head Golf Club. Total revenue for the event was \$175,625 with expenses of \$37,024 for a net of \$138,601. In 2015, total revenue was \$127,275 with expenses of \$21,720 for a net of \$105,555.

Over a two year period prior to the Soirée, \$690,000 had been raised towards a goal of \$750,000 to renovate the Science Library into the new Research Center. A "capping campaign" was started at the Soirée to raise the additional \$60,000. Guests were solicited to make donations resulting in raising the full \$60,000.



Staffing

Shelley Dresser joined the staff of the Development Department as the Assistant Director of Development and Special Projects. Shelley will play a lead role in writing grants and undertaking special projects at the direction of the Director of Development & Communications.

Galaxy of Support

2016 Donors and Supporters

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

The Nantucket Red-Tie Soirée

Soirée Individual Sponsors

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Galaxy of Support

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*In Honor of Toni & Martin
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Donations and Gifts

*We especially
need imagination
in science.*

Maria Mitchell

Mitchell House received several very important gifts this year. They included pieces from:

Augusta Talbott – Mitchell family baby camlet and infant's cap passed down through the Peleg Mitchell Jr side of family via the eldest daughter since 1733.

Virginia Andrews – embroidered narrative about Edith Folger Andrews by Susan Boardman; scrap-books of island plant life and bird drawings from the 1930s by Barbara Andrews; nineteenth century child's black painted potty chair; nineteenth century child's black and floral painted rocking chair; nineteenth century child's doll cart painted black with orange detail; nineteenth century engraving of the astronomer William Loomis.

Christina Albers – books from the collection of her late father, Henry Albers:

Star Name Pronunciation by Rumrill, June 1936

Report Prepared by the Committee of the American Astronomical Society on Preferred Spellings and Pronunciations, August 1942.

An Index to the Constellations by Schlesinger and Pond, February 1925.

Joanne Polster – *The Works of John Burroughs and Green Laurels: The Life and Achievements of the Great Naturalists* by Donald Culross Peattie, fifteen volumes.

Susan Taber Adams Farrand – copies of reminiscences of her great, great grandmother, Eliza Gardner Heaton, a friend of Sally Mitchell Barney's and Maria Mitchell's.



Financial Report

The Nantucket Maria Mitchell Association, Inc.
Statement of Financial Position
December 31, 2016
(With Summarized Audited Financial Information for 2015)

Assets	2016	2015
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 872,830	\$ 995,166
Inventories	1,318	1,318
Pledges receivable	155,876	615,981
Grants receivable	12,350	25,000
Other receivables	143,260	8,333
Investments	2,890,421	3,004,312
Real estate interests	235,000	65,500
Remainder interest in property	1,205,568	560,729
Property, plant, and equipment, net	<u>5,087,953</u>	<u>4,963,084</u>
	<u>\$ 10,604,576</u>	<u>\$ 10,239,423</u>
Liabilities and Net Assets		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 117,937	\$ 78,079
Not payable	<u>-</u>	<u>924</u>
	<u>117,937</u>	<u>79,003</u>
Net assets		
Unrestricted	5,275,633	\$ 5,873,418
Temporarily restricted	3,282,367	2,358,363
Permanently restricted	<u>1,928,639</u>	<u>1,928,639</u>
Total net assets	<u>10,486,639</u>	<u>10,160,420</u>
	<u>\$ 10,604,576</u>	<u>\$ 10,239,423</u>

Financial Report

Revenue and Support	Unrestricted	Temporary Unrestricted	Permanently Unrestricted	Totals	
				2016	2015
Programs	\$ 308,657	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 308,657	\$ 279,612
Admissions	61,152	-	-	61,152	53,723
Museum Shop	15,033	-	-	15,033	13,517
Memberships	104,925	-	-	104,925	81,500
Grants	125,351	111,298	-	236,649	183,327
Contributions	260,239	53,352	-	313,591	147,305
Special events	140,958	-	-	140,958	116,525
Investment return designated for operations	162,500	-	-	162,500	171,817
Rental income	59,965	-	-	59,965	47,287
Interest income	3,527	-	-	3,527	2,888
Net assets released from restriction					
Satisfaction of program restrictions	60,516	(60,516)	-	-	-
Total revenue and support	1,302,823	104,134		1,406,957	1,097,501
Expenses					
Program services	952,264	-	-	952,264	957,991
Management and general	850,086	-	-	850,086	297,000
Development	288,958	-	-	288,958	287,542
Total expenses	2,091,308	-	-	2,091,308	1,542,533
Change in net assets from operating activities	(788,485)	104,134	-	(684,351)	(445,032)
Non-operating activities:					
Investment return, less amounts					
designated for operations	50,006	-	-	50,006	(173,292)
Contributions & grants restricted for capital activities	-	315,725	-	315,725	234,109
Loss on disposal of equipment	-	-	-	-	(3,609)
Donation of remainder interest in property	-	644,839	-	644,839	28,728
Net assets released from restriction					
Satisfaction of capital related restrictions	140,694	(140,694)	-	-	-
Change in net assets from non-operating activities	190,700	819,870	-	1,010,570	(71,987)
Change in net assets	(597,785)	924,004	-	326,219	(517,019)
Net assets, beginning of year	5,873,418	2,358,363	1,928,639	10,160,420	10,677,439
Net assets, end of year	5,275,633	3,282,367	1,928,639	10,486,639	10,160,420

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Gary Walker, M.S.

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Mitchell House MMA-Vassar College Intern
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Pat Michaelson, Ph.D.
David Lund, M.D.

Student Volunteer
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(Beginning in August)
Andrew McKenna-Foster, M.S.
(Through September)

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Research Associate
Andrew McKenna-Foster, M.S.

Research Associate, Scallops
Valerie A. Hall, Ph.D.

Field Ornithologist
Virginia Andrews

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Roy Ryder
Stephanie Ryder
Cade Sargent
Jared Soltys
Spence Summer
Leland Topham
Heather Vance
Ava Waig



2016 Research/Program Collaborators By Subject

American Burying Beetle

Lou Perrotti, *Director of Conservation Programs, Roger Williams Park Zoo*

Cynthia Maynard, *U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service*

Anita Barstow, *U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service*

Scallops

Dr. Steve Estabrooks

Tara M. Riley, *Town of Nantucket Shellfish Biologist*

Interns

Stephen Heck

Mae Taylor

Ian Evans

Horseshoe Crabs, Insects,

Scavengers

Dr. Derek Perry, *Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries*

Karen Beattie, *Manager of the Department of Science and Stewardship, Nantucket Conservation Foundation*

Dr. Jennifer Karberg, *Research Supervisor, Nantucket Conservation Foundation*

Danielle O'Dell, *Research Technician/Field Supervisor, Nantucket Conservation Foundation*

Snakes, Birds

Scott Smyers, *Environmental Consultant, Oxbow Associates Inc.*

Joe Martinez, *Curatorial Assistant, Museum of Comparative Zoology - Herpetology*

Herbarium, Flora

Pam Polloni - *Research Assistant, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute*

Roberta Lombardi, *Herbarium Assistant, UMass Amherst*

Kelly Omand, *Research Technician/Field Supervisor, Nantucket Conservation Foundation*

Other

Jessica Cundiff, *Curatorial Associate/Collections Manager, Museum of Comparative Zoology - Sankaty fossils*

Astronomy

2016 REU Student Research Projects:

Derrick Carr: *Deep WIYN Imaging of the Globular Cluster System of the Lenticular Galaxy NGC 3607*
(Advisors: Katherine Rhode (Indiana University), Regina Jorgenson)

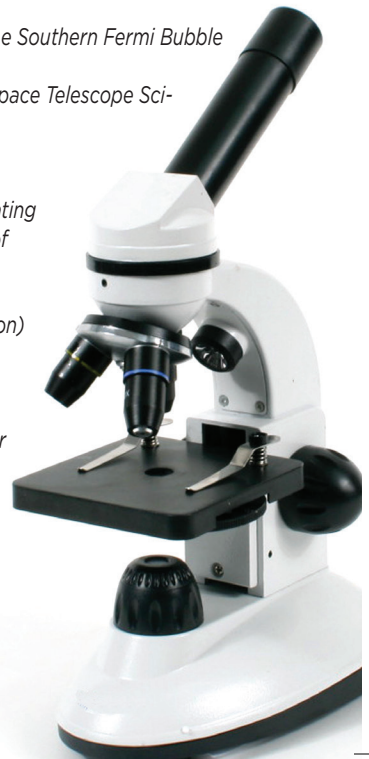
Francesca Childs: *Optical Variability Observations of Quasar PDS 456* (Advisors: Vladimir Strelitski, Regina Jorgenson, Gary Walker)

Holly Christenson: *Spatially Resolved Emission of a z~3 Damped Lyman alpha Galaxy with Keck/OSIRIS IFU*
(Advisor: Regina Jorgenson)

Tanveer Karim: *Probing the Southern Fermi Bubble in Ultraviolet Absorption*
(Advisors: Andrew Fox (Space Telescope Science Institute), Regina Jorgenson)

Tarini Konchady: *Investigating the Metallicity Evolution of Sub-Damped Lyman alpha Systems*
(Advisor: Regina Jorgenson)

Sanaea Rose: *Long-term Accretion Variations of the Magnetic Variable Star QQ Vulpecula*
(Advisors: Stella Kafka (AAVSO), Gary Walker, Regina Jorgenson)



Collaborators

The Maria Mitchell Association is proud to establish collaborations with other non-profit organizations and universities in order to offer the best in programs and to conduct research vital to understanding and preserving Nantucket's natural areas and to pursue cutting edge research in astronomy using MMA's telescopes and leading telescopes around the world and in space.

American Society of Mammalogists
American Arachnology Society
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Mark Genthner, *Just Do It Too*
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Keck Observatory
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The Nantucket Lighthouse School
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The Mammal Society (UK)
Massachusetts Audubon Society
Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries
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University of North Carolina at Charlotte
University of Paris, France
University of Rhode Island
University of Western Australia
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
The Wildlife Society
Vassar College
Yale University

Publications & Presentations

Jascin Leonardo Finger

Publications:

"Maria Mitchell's Attic" blog, for MMA.

"The Nation of Nantucket" column for *Nantucket Chronicle*.

Presentations:

Mitchell's Book Corner: book discussion of her book, *The Daring Daughters of Nantucket Island*, March 2016.

ChathamWISE Women's ThinkTank: "*Maria Mitchell and Legacy: Its Meaning and Importance*," Chatham, Mass, May 2016.

Nantucket Book Festival "Author's Tent," June 2016.

MMA Science Lecture Series: "*The Daring Daughters of Nantucket Island*," September 2016.

Regina Jorgenson, Ph.D.

Publications:

Cooke, R. J., Pettini, M., Nollett, K.M., Jorgenson, R. A. "The Primordial Deuterium Abundance of the Most Metal-poor Damped Lyman alpha System." 2016, *Astrophysical Journal*, 830, 148.

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