**FALMOUTH HISTORICAL SOCIETY BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**President Michael Kasparian**

Michael served on the FHS Board before the addition of the Cultural Center and renovation of Conant House; he is looking forward to being part of the restoration of Wicks House (in his words: “our finest asset”) and strengthening our collections. He has a lifelong interest in American furniture, decorative arts, and architecture from the Colonial and Federal periods. He has a Certificate in Arts & Antique Appraisal from the Rhode Island School of Design and works as a personal property appraiser focusing on arts and antiques. His formal degrees are from Rhode Island College (BA) and Bryant College (MBA). He and his family have been residents of Falmouth since 2005. In addition to being a Town Meeting Member, he serves on several non-profit advisory boards. His current position as President of the Falmouth Chamber of Commerce has put him in touch with businesses, non-profits, and individuals across our community, up for new three-year term.

**Treasurer Robert G. Ripley, Jr.**

Bob has retired from a career as a senior bank and wealth management executive with extensive banking, finance, audit, investment, and strategic planning experience. He started his career in banking at Shawmut Bank and, in 1991, founded Trust Tax Services Of America, acquired by SunGard in 2003. Among his past positions are President of Merchants Trust Company, Vice President of State Street Bank, end Executive Vice President of Martha’s Vineyard Savings Bank. His love of local and American History has drawn him to work with several historic institutions. His current job is Director of Finance and Operations for the Concord Museum. As a volunteer, he serves on the Massachusetts Historical Society Board as a Trustee and Chair of its Collections and of Audit Committees. He has been a resident of Falmouth since 2008. At that time, he was chair of the Town of Falmouth’s Finance Committee and the Falmouth Public Library Support Fund. He also was previously on the FHS Board. In the past year, he served on the Search Committee for our new Executive Director. He has degrees from Bentley (BS, accounting) (also now chair of its Legacy Society), Bryant University (MST), and Nichols College (MBA). His desire to serve his community and support our new Executive Director has led him to volunteer again for the FHS Board, up for new three-year term.

**Secretary Carolyn Tarr**

Carolyn Tarr has lived in North Falmouth for most of her life. This is where she and her husband, John raised their three daughters, now adults. Recently the oldest and their son-in-law have moved back to North Falmouth with five grandchildren. It is a joy but also an education on the challenges and advantages for young families in Falmouth today. When her own family was young, Carolyn combined various work-life experiences. In the early years, she was a floral designer while also helping her husband run his business as a self-employed contractor. She then worked as an Event Manager, first at Highfield Hall and next at Museums on the Green, for a total of over 12 years. While at the Museums, she also managed the office and coordinated volunteers. Currently employed as a Furniture Artist at Vintage Furniture Reclaimed in West Falmouth, she redesigns vintage pieces for modern homes. Art, with its endless possibilities, is her passion. Carolyn has developed deep roots in the community through personal and professional relationships at work, neighborhood boards, and her children’s schools. She has a strong appreciation for the town and its unique history. On the FHS Board since August 2022, she is up for election for a full three-year term.

**John Bissonnette**

John’s roots in Falmouth stretch back to the town's renowned Lawrence whaling family. A graduate of Falmouth High School in 1981, John's educational journey continued at Boston College for his bachelor's degree and later at the University of Kansas for his Masters. Following a career as a Social Studies teacher and coach for three decades in Missouri, John, along with his wife Lonna, opened an antiques store in Liberty, Missouri, and embraced civic engagement actively participating in various town committees. Upon retiring from the store, the couple returned to Falmouth, where they purchased a historic 1920's home. John is a wonderful asset to the Falmouth Historical Society with his whaling connections, and he has been contributing to the community by volunteering in the gift shop and leading engaging walking tours since the summer of 2023. His passion for Falmouth's heritage shines through in every facet of his involvement.

**Judy Durham**

Retired in 2016 after teaching elementary school in Connecticut and Maryland for over 18 years. Prior to that, she worked for Aetna Property and Casualty for almost 20 years as an underwriter and in product development. Judy held a variety of positions in both fields. Most recently, she was a grade team leader, working collaboratively to successfully plan and implement the Common Core Curriculum for the first grade. Judy holds a B.A. in English from St. Olaf College and a Masters in Education from the University of Hartford. She is a member of Kappa Delta Pi, International Honor Society Education. Judy has been involved in many volunteer projects. She was a co-manager of soliciting businesses for donated materials as a member of the planning committee of a large community project to build a Leathers Playscape in her hometown. Currently, Judy volunteers at The Falmouth Service Center, Hand-in-Hand Thrift Store, and is Correspondence Secretary for the Outreach Committee of her church. Judy has been a part of the MOG Third Grade Colonial Program. As a previous educator, Judy is interested in bringing history to life through programming for our children and the local school system.

**Robin Ketchum**

Robin has a deep love of Falmouth history having grown up in town and gone through the public schools. She has worked in a diversity of fields including marketing and design, administration for an estate attorney, and an administrative secretary for the Charter Review Committee. After her professional career, Robin dedicated her time to many civic causes in town, including her time as Past President of the Falmouth Garden Club. An avid crafter, she is interested in helping out with children’s programming here at the museum. She has been instrumental in the success of our annual Halloween Wicked at Wicks Children’s program.

**Rocco Maffei**

Rocco’s career began with serving five years on active duty with the United States Air Force and 30 years in the USAF Reserves, retiring in 2005 as a Colonel. With degrees from Trinity College (BA) and the University of Maine Law School (JD), he pursued a legal career in corporate positions. When he retired in 2011, he began volunteering at the Museums, working in almost every possible capacity: school docent, house docent, prior Board member including past President, and participant in events as disparate as Night Watchman, Katherine Lee Bates Poetry Fest, readings for July 4th and Teddy Bear Picnic. He spearheaded a 2015 dinner honoring 25 WWII veterans. Rocco enjoys interacting with the public while telling stories of Falmouth. Other local non-profits that he has volunteered for are Old Stone Dock and Friends of Nobska Light—rejoined FHS Board, August 2022, up for full three-year term.

**Heather Shepley**

Heather has lived, worked, and volunteered in Falmouth since 1980. Originally trained as a professional dancer, she has been a physical therapist for the past 32 years, much of that time currently with Cape Cod Healthcare. Specializing in geriatric rehabilitation, she interacts with the community on a daily basis. Over the years, she has actively participated in various roles in the preforming arts in Falmouth. Falmouth Theatre Guild, Dancer’s Studio, and her own dance company, Summer Dance Theatre, are just some of the organizations she has worked with. A past member of the Vestry for Church of the Messiah, she took a leadership role in preservation and related fundraising for the Woods Hole cemeteries. Eckerd College (BA), New York University (MFA in dance), and Boston University (MS in Physical Therapy). Will be a new FHS Board, three-year term.

**Ann Nagel Stone**

Semi-retired occupational therapist, currently working at JML Care Center in Falmouth. Previously worked at hospitals and healthcare facilities in the Cape and northern New England. Bates College (BA and Sargent College of Boston University (MSOT). A resident of Falmouth since 1982 with her husband Tom, where they have raised two now adult children. At the First Congregational Church, she has been a Deacon and co-chair of its Capital Campaign and now is on the Outreach Committee. She is on the Board of the Upper Cape Chaplaincy, an elected member of the Falmouth Democratic Town Committee, a member of the Falmouth Gun Safety Coalition, and a member of Falmouth Newcomers. For FHS/MOG, she has been a walking guide for several years and recently joined the Collections Committee. Ann has completed one three-year term as a FHS member and is up for re-election for a second three-year term.