

From the Editors

This *Spritsail* is packed with delicacies. There are four articles and a photo essay to enjoy.

In our lead article, Graham Ward tells the story of Florence Eldred Johnson. She lived from 1892 to 1984, a long life that was spent mostly in Quissett. Her story seems very remote with its memory of smoked fish in the attic and hose wagons stored near the schoolhouse. Yet it was really almost yesterday. Many people now alive still remember the "Bird Lady of Quissett." She is buried in the Oak Grove Cemetery.

Nathan S. Ellis has been researching the Oak Grove Cemetery. It is a work in progress, but Ellis has already found a great deal of material and has organized it to showcase the veterans of wars from the American Revolution through to the Spanish American War. Early sea captains and some of their exploits come next, followed by "Non Military Persons of Note." Cemeteries hold valuable information about the people who came before us. Ann Sears wrote about "Reading History in Falmouth's Old Burying Ground" in the Winter 1996 issue of *Spritsail*. Articles like these do more than list deaths, they evoke lives.

The Photo Essay by Maria Ward brings us up to date on "The House at Sixteen Main Street" which she wrote for the Summer 2009 issue of *Spritsail*. The restoration and renovation of the Katharine Lee Bates House has been both meticulous and imaginative. It is a pleasure to see the old building live on in its present incarnation.

Jennifer Gaines and Anne Halpin have contributed an illustrated article about Frederick C. (Fritz) Fuglister for this issue of *Spritsail*. It is based on the exhibit of his works prepared by Jennifer Gaines and Susan Witzell for the Woods Hole Historical Museum in the summer of 2011. Fuglister had an extraordinary range of talents. To accompany the museum exhibit, Gaines and Witzell organized several programs devoted to his art, science, and music. Phil Richardson spoke at one of the programs. He described Fuglister's work on the Gulf Stream and his discovery and mapping of the core rings that break off from it. Richardson also described his long search for the original Gulf Stream maps from Benjamin Franklin's days. We are pleased to include excerpts from his talk in this issue. "House Music at the Fuglister's" by William Simmons and Cecelia Bowerman Fuglister gives details of the musicians and the music they played from the mid-1940s on into the 1980s. That article can be found in the Summer 1993 issue of *Spritsail*.

We thank Raymond F. Benson, until recently the Executive Director of the Falmouth Museums on the Green, for correcting a mistake he found in the Madison Edwards sidebar of the previous *Spritsail*. Reverend Henry H. Smythe was the rector of St. Barnabas Church. He is correctly referenced in the Oak Grove Cemetery article in this *Spritsail*.