

## From the Editors

This issue of *Spritsail* plants us solidly in the 20<sup>th</sup> century. John Valois and Sam Cahoon were well-known and widely admired in the Falmouth community not just as sailors, but as generous members of the community and great story tellers. John's "Conversation" at the Woods Hole Library in May 2000 about the older man gives a fine sense of the two personalities.

Maria Ward's story of the short-lived (1929 to 1937) Falmouth Country Club describes the dashed hopes and plans of a few summer residents for public use of the hills and kettle holes off Frazar Road. The course included land that is now Tee Way and Fairway Lane in West Falmouth, part of the current Route 28, and 49 acres referred to as the Collins Woodlot, now owned by the town and stewarded by The 300 Committee.

Barbara (Bobby) Colburn describes some pleasures of working at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution from the late 1940s to the early 1950s.

Tom Turkington kindly allowed us to adapt and edit sections of his book-long memoir recounting his childhood in Falmouth in the 1950s and '60s. (Can any reader identify the bakery where Tom got his Bismarck?)

We hope readers will enjoy revisiting some of the people, places, and pastimes recounted in these not-too-distant histories.

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With this issue of *Spritsail* Judy Stetson steps down as our diligent, skilled, and cheerful editor. Fortunately, she will continue as a member of the editorial board, which relies on her energy, ability, and quick sense of humor as well as her knowledge of Falmouth. She has been on the editorial board of *Spritsail* since its first issue, Summer 1987, and has been editor since the 2006 Summer issue.

Judy reminds us that Mary Lou Smith, who had edited both *Woods Hole Reflections* (1983) and *The Book of Falmouth* (1986), became the first editor of *Spritsail*, a journal created to publish material that hadn't been included in either book. Since Judy was on the *Woods Hole Reflections* book committee and *The Book of Falmouth* editorial board, she was a natural successor to Mary Lou. "I was inspired and mentored by Mary Lou," said Judy. "As an editor, and as part of an editorial board, my priority has been to keep the author's style and tone as intact as possible. "Looking back through the Tables of Contents of many *Spritsails*, I remember what a pleasure and privilege it has been to work with all of those different authors writing on a wide range of subjects in such engaging ways! *Spritsail* has always been a collaborative venture, and one that has enriched my life."

Judy also researched and wrote many articles for *Spritsail*, including: "The Enlightenment" (1990), about electricity coming to Falmouth; "Woods Hole Buys Its Post Office" (1994); "Running Water" (1998), about early private and public water systems; "Beebe Woods: Falmouth's Miracle," primarily excerpts from other authors, (2003); "Mail Order Houses," which, she said, was the most fun to do, (2004); "Woods Hole in World War II" (collected excerpts); "Remembering Mary Louise Cole Smith"; and "Five Founding Members of The Board of Trade and Industry," all in 2014. She also wrote the "From the Editors" pieces that were designed to introduce readers to the issue and tempt them to read the articles.