

Martha's Vineyard Museum Staff

David Nathans, *Executive Director*
Jessica Barker, *Assistant Manager for Development and
Membership Services*
Anna Carringer, *Assistant Curator*
Nancy Cole, *Education Director*
Teresa Coy, *Administrative Coordinator*
Katy Fuller, *Marketing, Membership, & Events Manager*
Linsey Lee, *Oral History Curator*
Betsey Mayhew, *Finance Director*
Catherine Merwin Mayhew, *Genealogist*
Chris Murphy, *Vanity Skipper*
Dawna Phaneuf, *Housekeeper*
Bonnie Stacy, *Chief Curator*
Dana Costanza Street, *Assistant Librarian*
Charles Tucey, *Caretaker*
Dan Waters, *Development Director*
Susan Wilson, *Editor of the Dukes County Intelligencer*



*The Martha's Vineyard Museum preserves and interprets
collections that engage and connect the public to the
Island's history, art, and culture.*

91st Annual Meeting of the Martha's Vineyard Museum

August 12, 2013 ~ 5:00 pm
Federated Church, Edgartown



Board of Directors 2013

Elizabeth Beim, *Chair*
James B. Richardson, III, *Vice Chair*
Gail Farrish, *Secretary*
Dale Garth, *Treasurer*
David Nathans, *Executive Director*

Nat Benjamin, Robert Blacklow,
Marcia Mulford Cini, James T. Curtis, John R. Ettinger,
Skip Finley, Lorna Giles, Sheldon Hackney,
Mark Charles Lapman, Doug Leavens, David LeBreton,
Phoebe Lewis, Calvin Linnemann, Mark Alan Lovewell,
June Manning, Christopher Morse, Mark Snider,
Elizabeth Hawes Weinstock, Denys Wortman

Report of the Committee on Directors 2013

The Committee on Directors presents the following slate for election to the Board of Directors:

Class of 2016:

Up for election to first full term:

Skip Finley
David LeBreton

Up for election for second full term:

Nat Benjamin
Gail Farrish

Farewell to:

Mark Snider

Under the By-Laws of the MV Museum, the new officers will be elected at the next meeting of the Board of Directors on August 23, 2013.

Olga Hirshhorn

Presented by Dr. Gerry Yukevich

Olga Hirshhorn is among the most recognized art supporters on the Island. Experience working on building collections with her late husband, Dr. Joe Hirshhorn, the founding patron of The Hirshhorn Museum in Washington D.C., led to Olga's artistic interests being broad and diversified. She has been a patron and promoter of many Island artists and organizations since the late 1980s. In 2001, Olga created the incredibly popular Chicken Alley Art Show, now held annually, to benefit Martha's Vineyard Community Services. She served on the Board of the Vineyard Playhouse for many years, is now an honorary board member, and had the "Olga Award" named after her. At age 93, she is a young, enthusiastic supporter of many non-profits.

Sheldon Hackney

Presented by Vernon Jordan

Sheldon Hackney is Chair Emeritus of the Martha's Vineyard Museum and served as Chair during a critical time, when the Museum was acquiring its new Vineyard Haven property. During his Board tenure, Sheldon also led the Committee on Directors and the Development Committee. Sheldon's reputation and experience nationally as a historian (Princeton), an educational administrator (President of Tulane and the University of Pennsylvania) and a humanist (Chair of the National Endowment for the Humanities) have benefited the Island since he and his wife Lucy became seasonal residents in the early 1970s. Sheldon has been active at his two favorite Vineyard Haven institutions, serving on the vestry of Grace Episcopal Church and regularly leading programs at the Vineyard Haven Library. He also led discussions for two film series for the Museum on WWII and the Civil War. Sheldon and Lucy are also active in Martha's Vineyard Community Services and the local NAACP. Both Hackneys were born and raised in the deep south, but have long called the Island home.

2013 Martha's Vineyard Medal Recipients

The Murphy Family (Presented to Chris & Barbara)

Presented by Nancy Cole

Polly Woollcott Murphy was a long-time summer resident who moved to the Island after WWII with her husband Stan. She was an active leader in the local NAACP chapter, and in 1963 joined four other Vineyard women on a voter registration drive in North Carolina. Polly was also an inaugural member of the West Tisbury Conservation Commission. Stan Murphy was a well-respected and talented artist, often using Vineyard themes and capturing Island personalities with a realism that resonated with his subjects and collectors. He served on the Chilmark School Committee, and as an inaugural member of the West Tisbury Fire Department. Stan was an active collector of decoys and wrote the definitive sourcebook on Martha's Vineyard decoys. Closest to home, Stan served as Vice President of the Historical Society, now the Museum, for two terms.

Polly and Stan's oldest child, Chris, has been a fisherman based out of Chilmark for years. He joined the Martha's Vineyard Commission in 2005, and was Vice Chairman and Chair for several years. Chris is a member of the Chilmark Zoning Board of Appeals, and also serves on the Board of the Farm Institute. For the past five years, Chris has been the volunteer captain of the Museum's catboat Vanity. He guest curated a decoy exhibition, and is currently Chair of the Museum's Programming Committee. Barbara Murphy, daughter of Mary and Bill Thomas of Oak bluffs, taught Spanish at Martha's Vineyard Regional High School for many years. Both were longtime members of the Historical Society, now the Museum, and very good friends of Henry Franklin Norton, the first curator. Earlier this year, Barbara was recognized as Volunteer of the Year from Elder Services for her work with the Meals on Wheels program. Barbara began volunteering at the Museum in 2005, and has been going through the photo collection to prepare it for its future digitalization.

Agenda

Call to Order: Elizabeth Beim, Chairman

- Approval of the 2011 Annual Meeting Minutes
- Report of the Chairman

Report of the Executive Director: David Nathans

Report of the Treasurer: Dale Garth

Questions

Report of the Committee on Directors: Marcia Cini

- Election of Directors

Presentation of the 2013 Martha's Vineyard Medal:

Jim Richardson and Betsy Weinstock

- The Murphy Family
 - o Introduced by Nancy Cole
- Olga Hirshhorn
 - o Introduced by Dr. Gerry Yukevich
- Sheldon Hackney
 - o Introduced by Vernon Jordan

All are invited back to the Museum for a reception following the medal ceremony.

2013 Board Members Up For Election Biographies

Nathaniel P. Benjamin

Nat Benjamin grew up in Garrison, New York, a small town on the Hudson River, but by the time he was twenty-two, he had skippered a charter boat in the Caribbean for a season, delivered boats half a dozen times between New England and the West Indies, and sailed across the Mediterranean single-handed and the Atlantic Ocean with a crew.

In the summer of 1972, he and his wife Pam moved to Vineyard Haven and found a home near the harbor. Nat set up a boat shop for old sloops and catboats in need of repair and soon began building his own and sketching larger traditional boats. Today, Gannon and Benjamin Marine Railway is one of the most celebrated traditional boat builders in America.

Nat and Pam continue to live in Vineyard Haven and are actively involved with many non-profits on the Island.

Gail Farrish

Gail Farrish moved to Martha's Vineyard full-time in 2003. After a long career in financial planning, she retired in 2008 and has since dedicated much of her free time to volunteering at community non-profits.

Gail has been the secretary of the MV Museum Board of Directors for three years. She also chaired the Special Events Committee, playing a crucial role in fundraising events for a number of years. Gail also serves on the Personnel and Development Committees. When not working with the Museum, Gail is on the Board and serves as Treasurer at Featherstone Center for the Arts.

Gail's hobbies include playing golf, the piano and duplicate bridge. She is the Director of the Edgartown Bridge Club, but most enjoys spending time with her seven grandchildren.

Skip Finley

A nationally known media professional since 1971, Skip Finley has worked in television, advertising, and radio for much of his life. From 1983-1995, he also purchased a number of radio stations. He has led the Board of Directors for the Radio Advertising Bureau, the National Association of Broadcasters and the Broadcasters Foundation of America.

Skip first began spending summers in Oak Bluffs in 1955. The Island became his permanent home in 1999 when he moved here with his wife Karen. He is on the Board of Trustees for the Vineyard Open Land Foundation and has served on several Oak Bluffs town committees including the Historical Commission that established the Cottage City Historic District.

In addition to writing the Oak Bluffs Town column he is Director of Sales and Marketing for the Vineyard Gazette Media Group.

David LeBreton

David LeBreton has been coming to the Vineyard since the early 1950s. Now retired, he spent his professional life in the publishing field as a writer, editor, publisher and entrepreneur after completing his studies at Princeton.

Most recently David and his wife Ann were owners of Edgartown Books for ten years. His non-profit work has included chairing secondary school fundraising efforts at both Dedham Country Day School and St. Paul's, and helping with development efforts at Recording for the Blind.

David and Ann enjoy spending time with family at their Edgartown home. David is a member of the Edgartown Yacht Club, Edgartown Golf Club, and The Reading Room.