99th Annual Meeting of the
Martha’s Vineyard Museum

July 25, 2022 ~ 5:00 pm
MV Museum Campus, Vineyard Haven

Board of Directors 2022

Cathy Weiss, Chair
Paul Schneider, Vice-Chair
David Grain, Secretary
Meredith Degen, Treasurer
Heather Seger, Ex Officio

Nat Benjamin, Robert Blacklow, Jeb Blatt, Jonathan Blum, Marcia Mulford Cini, Jill Cowan, Gordon Cromwell, David R. Foster, Dale Garth, Fred Jackson, David Lewis, Calvin Linnemann, Christopher Morse, Elizabeth Reisner Pickman, Phil Regan, Alison Shaw, Shelley Stewart, Kahina Van Dyke, Elizabeth Hawes Weinstock, Lana Woods, Denys Wortman, Stever Aubrey, Trustee Emeritus, Elizabeth Beim, Trustee Emeritus
Martha’s Vineyard Museum Staff

Heather Seger, Executive Director

Anna Barber, Curator of Exhibitions
Savannah Berryman-Moore, Events & Communications Coordinator
Carol Carroll, Director of Finance & Administration
Matthew DeCourcey, Visitor Services Associate
Annie Finnerty, Administrative Assistant
Janice Gulland, Custodial Team
Antori Green, Visitor Services Associate
Brien Hefler, Visitor Services Manager
Linsey Lee, Oral History Curator
Kate Logue, Exhibitions Assistant
Finn MacLeod, Visitor Services Associate
Norah Messier, Education & Public Programs Manager
Laura Noonan, Digital Projects Associate
Dawna Phaneuf, Custodial Team
Tom Phaneuf, Custodial Team
Kate Ridenour, Associate Director of Audience Engagement
Adam Smith, Director of Operations
Bonnie Stacy, Chief Curator
A. Bowdoin Van Riper, Research Librarian
Katie Van Riper, Curatorial Assistant
Kristin Williams, Visitor Services Associate

The Martha's Vineyard Museum inspires all people to discover, explore, and strengthen their connections to this Island and its diverse heritage.

Agenda

Call to Order: Cathy Weiss, Chairperson
- Approval of the 2021 Annual Meeting Minutes
- Report of the Chairperson

Report of the Executive Director: Heather Seger

Report of the Treasurer: Meredith Degen

Questions

Governance Report: Cathy Weiss

Election of Directors: Cathy Weiss

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Presentation of the 2022 Martha’s Vineyard Medal: Heather Seger

- Gus Ben David
  - Introduced by Anne Whiting
- Kib and Tess Bramhall
  - Introduced by Connie Ellis
- Juli Vanderhoop
  - Introduced by Molly Purves

All are invited to a reception following the completion of the medal ceremony.
The following slate is recommended for election to the Board of Directors:

**Class of 2025:**

*Candidates up for election for first full term:*

Sam Fleming  
André Koester  
Art Robinson  
Bruce Stewart

*Candidates up for election for second full term:*

Robert Blacklow  
David Grain  
Calvin Linnemann  
Christopher Morse  
Alison Shaw  
Shelley Stewart  
Denys Wortman

**Farewell and with thanks to:**

Dale Garth  
Paul Schneider  
Lana Woods

*Under the By-Laws of the MV Museum, officers will be elected at the next meeting of the Board of Directors on August 24, 2022.*

**Martha’s Vineyard Medal Recipients**

**2009:**  
Ray Ellis, Tom Hale, Della Hardman, John Walter

**2010:**  
David McCullough, Arthur R. Railton, Tobias Jonathan Vanderhoop

**2011:**  

**2012:**  
The Athearn Family, Geraldine Brooks & Tony Horwitz, Hugh Knipmeyer

**2013:**  
Sheldon Hackney, Olga Hirshhorn, The Murphy Family

**2014:**  
Renee Balter, Dorothy Bangs, Richard Paradise

**2015:**  
Pat Gregory, Patricia Morgan, Cynthia Riggs

**2016:**  
Len Butler, Robert S. Douglas, Catherine Mayhew

**2017:**  
Kate Hancock, James B. Richardson, III, S. Christopher Scott

**2018:**  
Ann Smith, Rose Styron, Denys Wortman

**2019:**  
Chilmark Chocolates, Elaine Cawley Weintraub, Lynne & Allen Whiting

**2020:**  
Steve Bernier, Skip Finley, Juliana Germani

**2021:**  
Richard L. Burt, Vernon E. Jordan (posthumously), Nancy Blair Vietor
Ki and Tess Bramhall
Presented by Connie Ellis

Ki and Tess Bramhall have lived on the Vineyard for over 60 years, most of which have been as year-round residents. As a couple, they have been instrumental in advancing conservation efforts on the Vineyard. Ki is best known for his paintings of the Vineyard, many of which have preserved a record of what the Island looked like before the waves of development at the end of the 20th century. Additionally, he played a significant role in the Trustees of Reservations successful protection of Wasque and Cape Poge. Tess’s love of the Vineyard’s natural beauty and her commitment to helping protect it was a key factor in her decisions to become a board member and then president of the Vineyard Conservation Society. Furthermore, she was a founding member of the MV Conservation Partnership and most recently she created the Land Fund, which has helped provide critical bridge funding for various conservation efforts.

Juli Vanderhoop
Presented by Molly Purves

Julianne “Juli” Vanderhoop was born and raised in Aquinnah following generations of family to respect, live, and carry on leading in the footsteps of her ancestors the Wampanoag people. After leaving the Vineyard for college to study aeronautics, she became a commercial pilot only to later find a heart murmur that canceled out a passion for flying. She has raised a family while working as an island EMT, an early childhood educator, and most recently the owner/creator of the Orange Peel Bakery. A member of the Selectboard of Aquinnah and serving as a board member for many island non-profits, she is passionate about affordable housing (IGIU) and marine habitats.

2022 Board Members Up For First Term Election

Sam Fleming

A public media professional for more than forty years, Sam Fleming was the Managing Director of News & Programs at WBUR in Boston from 1991 to 2021. Sam also served as interim WBUR General Manager during 2019. Prior to his time at WBUR, Sam worked at WGBH in Boston and New Hampshire Public Television in Durham, New Hampshire, and New Hampshire Public Radio in Concord, NH. After growing up in Pennsylvania, Sam attended the University of New Hampshire where he received his bachelors in political science and history. A long-time Vineyard visitor, Sam’s grandparents owned a home in Edgartown. Sam now lives on the Island year-round with his wife, Emily Bramhall.

André Koester

André Koester held a variety of positions before pivoting to a career in luxury travel planning. She founded Koester Travel in 2013 and has spent the past nine years leading the business as CEO of the full-service, luxury travel company, specializing in immersive itineraries. André received her bachelors from Davidson College and MBA from Dartmouth. She spent two years teaching English in Japan, worked as a Research Associate at the Center for Strategic & International Studies in Washington, DC, and was a Product Manager at the Colgate-Palmolive Company. André was first brought to the Island by her step-father who grew up spending summers in Edgartown. André and her husband, Michael, now split their time between their home in Westchester County and West Chop.

Art Robinson

Art Robinson is a renowned lawyer specializing in leveraged finance, equity capital markets, governance, and restructuring. He received his bachelors from The Wharton School of the University
of Pennsylvania and his JD from the University of Virginia School of Law, where he was awarded the school’s highest honor, the Margaret G. Hyde Award. Art joined Simpson Thacher in 1988 and was appointed as Partner in 1997. At Simpson Thacher, he has served as Global Head of the Capital Markets Practice and Chair of the Business Development Committee, as well as a long-standing member of the Executive Committee. Art is a trustee of the University of Virginia School of Law and a member of its faculty and a former member of the National Advisory Board of the Netter Center of the University of Pennsylvania. After visiting the Island for the first time in 1990, Art has visited every summer since. Art and his wife, Soraya Mariel, purchased the old Hammett Farm in Chilmark in 2004. Active participants in the Island community, they are members of the Vineyard Haven Yacht Club, Vineyard Golf Club, and The Boathouse.

Bruce Stewart

President & CEO of Perch Energy, Bruce Stewart is an accomplished business leader. Bruce received his bachelor’s in English from College of the Holy Cross and his JD from Case Western Reserve University School of Law. Prior to joining Perch Energy, Bruce served as President at Direct Energy Home and Co-President of Centrica US Holdings. Bruce’s ties to the Island go back to the late 1960s. Growing up spending his summers at a family home on East Chop, Bruce and his wife, Lauretta, purchased a home on East Chop a decade ago. In addition to his business accomplishments, Bruce is an avid supporter of various organizations and serves as the President of the East Chop Tennis Club. The Stewarts split their time between East Chop and Houston, Texas.

Martha’s Vineyard Medal

As the premier storyteller of the history, arts, and culture of Martha’s Vineyard, the Martha’s Vineyard Museum created the Martha’s Vineyard Medal in 2009. The Medal is awarded to leaders in the community to recognize their outstanding commitment to preserving the history, arts, and culture of Martha’s Vineyard. Recipients demonstrate leadership on Martha’s Vineyard in at least one of the following areas:

- Historic preservation
- Fine and performing arts
- Literature
- Community activism
- Education

2022 Martha’s Vineyard Medal Recipients

Gus Ben David

Presented by Anne Whiting

Naturalist and teacher Gus Ben David was the Director of Felix Neck Wildlife Sanctuary for over 30 years, founded the Osprey Project, and created the World of Reptiles and Birds. He has been a remarkable leader of the successful effort to increase, protect, and monitor the endangered Osprey population on Island. In the early 1970’s Gus noticed that the Vineyard had only a couple pairs of nesting Osprey. As Director of Felix Neck, he quickly ascertained that the problem was with the availability of viable nesting sites—birds were nesting on telephone poles only to have their nests removed by utility staff. Gus began a program of installing nesting platforms at locations across the island. The first platform was erected at Mink Meadows, and over the years more than 160 nesting platforms have been erected. Today there are more than 100 pairs of nesting Osprey on the Vineyard and Gus continues to champion the wildlife on Island.
best practices through its member companies. Shelley currently serves as a Trustee at Howard University and he is on the Board of Governors for the University of New Haven.

Shelley holds a B.S. and an M.S. in Criminal Justice from Northeastern University and received his MBA from the University of New Haven. He splits his time between Philadelphia, PA and Oak Bluffs with his wife Ann.

Denys Wortman

Son of cartoonist Denys Wortman, Mr. Wortman grew up on Martha’s Vineyard after his family had been visiting for many years. After graduating from Tisbury High School and Wentworth Institute of Technology, Mr. Wortman spent the next 40 years at Arthur W. Wood in Boston as a stockbroker and Vice-President. In 1996, he realized that the Island was where he wanted to be. He purchased his childhood home on Hines Point from Tom Hale, and two years later, moved to the Island full-time with his wife Marilyn. Mr. Wortman co-founded Martha’s Vineyard Community Television and has served on the boards of Featherstone Center for the Arts, Tisbury Waterways, and Tashmoo Spring Building Restoration Committee. He also served as a selectman in Tisbury from 2006-2009 and on Tisbury’s finance and advisory board for ten years.

2022 Board Members Up For Second Term Election

Robert Blacklow

Dr. Robert Blacklow is Senior Lecturer in the Department of Global Health & Social Medicine at Harvard Medical School and College Director of the Harvard Alumni Association. Over the last forty years, he has held senior professorial and administrative posts at Harvard University, Rush University of Chicago, Jefferson Medical College, and most recently President and Dean of Northeastern Ohio Medical University, from which he retired in 2002. A graduate of Harvard College and Harvard Medical School, Bob is the recipient of honorary degrees from Kent State University and the University of Pécs in Hungary. Bob has been on the board of many non-profit organizations including Chicago Red Cross, Akron Regional Development Board, Akron Symphony, Phillips Brooks House Association, and the East Chop Association. Bob and his wife Wini have summered on the Vineyard for over fifty years and split their time between East Chop and Lincoln, MA. They have three sons.

David Grain

David Grain is the Managing Director and CEO of Grain Management. Prior to Grain, David served as President of Global Signal, Inc., the largest communication tower owner/operator at the time. David has also served as Senior Vice President at AT&T Broadband’s New England Region and was an Executive Director in the High Yield Finance department at Morgan Stanley. He also served as an Operating Advisor to General Catalyst.

David received a B.A. in English from the College of the Holy Cross and M.B.A. from the Amos Tuck School of Business Administration at Dartmouth College. He currently serves on the Board of Directors of Southern Company.

David is a 1980 graduate of Martha’s Vineyard Regional High School, he and his family moved to Vineyard Haven full time in
1974. His father, Walter Grain, grew up in Brooklyn, N.Y. and first visited the Vineyard in 1954. Mr. Grain’s mother, Dora Grain, was a longtime community activist and active member of the Vineyard chapter of the NAACP. David and his wife Dr. Lisa Butler were married on the Vineyard. They currently split their time between Sarasota, FL and West Chop and have two adult children.

Calvin Linneman

Calvin Linnemann is a retired professor, physician, and research scientist from Cincinnati, OH who has been coming to the Vineyard with his family since the 1980s. They have a home on the north head of Hines Point on Lagoon Pond, where he sails Faith, a small wooden boat built by Gannon & Benjamin. His current interests include the preservation of environmental and historical properties for which he has been involved in projects around the country. On the Vineyard, this has included the restoration of the 19th century Tashmoo Spring Building and the acquisition of the Marine Hospital by the Museum. Dr. Linnemann is a graduate of Trinity College and the College of Medicine at Duke University, and did postgraduate training at the University of Washington and Emory University.

Christopher Morse

Chris Morse and his wife Sheila live year-round in West Tisbury with their three daughters. Chris has called the Vineyard home for more than 35 years. Since 1996, Chris and Sheila have owned and run the Granary Gallery and currently own three premier galleries on the Island: The Granary Gallery and Field Gallery in West Tisbury and the North Water Gallery in Edgartown, each exhibiting art by noted Island artists as well as national and international artists. Chris has served on the Museum’s Board of Directors for more than two decades and serves on the collections, advancement, and executive committees. Chris is a graduate of Tabor Academy and Menlo College, where he received a degree in Business Administration.

Alison Shaw

Alison has been a photographer all of her professional life and has lived on Martha’s Vineyard full-time since 1975. She received her bachelors from Smith College before starting her career with the Vineyard Gazette doing production work and freelance photography. She was also the former archivist at the Martha’s Vineyard Historical Society (now MVM). During her 25-year tenure at the Gazette, she was a four-time recipient of the New England Press Association’s “Photographer of the Year” award. In 2000, Alison left the Gazette and, along with her partner Sue Dawson, opened the Alison Shaw Gallery in the Arts District of Oak Bluffs. She is also in her 35th year exhibiting her work at the Granary Gallery in West Tisbury. Alison has twenty published books to her name and thousands of her fine art photos are in public and private collections. She is regularly published in major magazines, runs a photography mentorship program with Sue, and teaches photography workshops worldwide.

Shelley Stewart

Shelley Stewart, Jr. has been coming to the Vineyard for almost fifty years. Shelley recently retired as the Chief Procurement Officer at E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Co. In that role he led procurement, global sourcing and logistics, as well as real estate and facility services, with a focus on delivering benefits through a strategic approach to supplier management, and assuring efficient facility utilization and maximizing the real estate footprint. Prior to joining DuPont in 2012, Shelley served in senior leadership roles at Tyco International, Raytheon Company, Invensys, and United Technologies Corporation. In his various roles, he led operational excellence, procurement, supply chain, and sourcing departments.

Shelley currently serves on the boards of Otis Worldwide and Kontoor Brands. He was elected chairman of the Billion Dollar Roundtable Inc. (BDR), a top-level advocacy organization that promotes corporate supplier diversity excellence and advances