

# FRIENDS OF NOBSKA LIGHT

## ANNUAL REPORT 2019



As we are getting ready to “go to press” with this annual report, the COVID-19 pandemic is sweeping across the world. What will this mean for the world, the country, and our community? We simply do not know. What we do know is as an organization the Friends of Nobska Light will continue our commitment to care for Falmouth’s beloved icon.

We are proud of what the Friends of Nobska Light have accomplished over the last year and want to celebrate those accomplishments with the community that made them possible.

In the spring, Falmouth’s vibrant Main Street provided the setting for “Navigate to Nobska”, a scavenger hunt that had participants of all ages searching for little Nobskas hidden in establishments in Falmouth Village, getting stamps on their game cards, and a prize when they arrived at the lighthouse tower.

In June, Beacons of Light, The Campaign for Nobska, was publicly launched. The party at Woods Hole Golf Club featured the glorious, handcrafted, scale model of Nobska Lighthouse made by Waterford Crystal. After the party, the model was on display for visitors to see at Historic Highfield. Someday it will be on display for people to see in the Keepers’ House at Nobska.



All spring and summer, the amazing committed volunteer tour guides shared their knowledge of the tower, local history, and the view from Nobska with visitors from around the world and around the country. More than 2,500 people signed in while taking the tour from 49 states and 26 other countries. For some visitors, Nobska is the only lighthouse they have ever seen or been in; for others, it is one of many.

The Museum planning committee started work in earnest, thinking about what will be of interest to Nobska’s visitors. They sought out advice from a broad range of the community, volunteers, visitors, and our professional museum designers. The vast range of stories that can be told and have a connection to Nobska are enjoyable to explore.

In July 2019 the Board of Directors supported commencement of Nobska’s renovation utilizing the funds in hand. Although the plan required dividing the project into phases it proved to be a wise decision. In September, Dellbrook JKS, Nobska’s general contractor, mobilized to start rehabilitation work on the Keepers’ House. When the building was opened up it became clear it was a very good choice not to wait any longer to



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undertake the work. Overall the structure was in remarkably good shape, but some areas, especially in the south wall, were in terrible condition. To convert two conjoined 144-year-old and 115-year-old houses into a publicly accessible museum takes a lot of structural reinforcement and adjustments. Through much hard work and collaboration among all entities involved, the building’s weathertight shell was in place before winter arrived. It was significantly tested with heavy wind and rain this winter. The inside work is still going on and will be paused to allow for soil remediation work that the Coast Guard is going to perform.

The Nobska community of friends expands from Falmouth, across the Cape and Islands, throughout Massachusetts, over our nation, and across the globe. We hope all will find solace in Nobska’s enduring strength and beauty in these difficult times.

Best Regards,

*Kathy*

Kathy Walrath,  
President

*Catherine*

Catherine Bumpus,  
Executive Director



# The work at Nobska



Full restoration of the Lighthouse Tower

Completed spring of 2018



Rehabilitation of the Keepers' House exterior

Anticipated completion June 2020



Rehabilitation of the Keepers' House interior

Anticipated completion Fall 2020

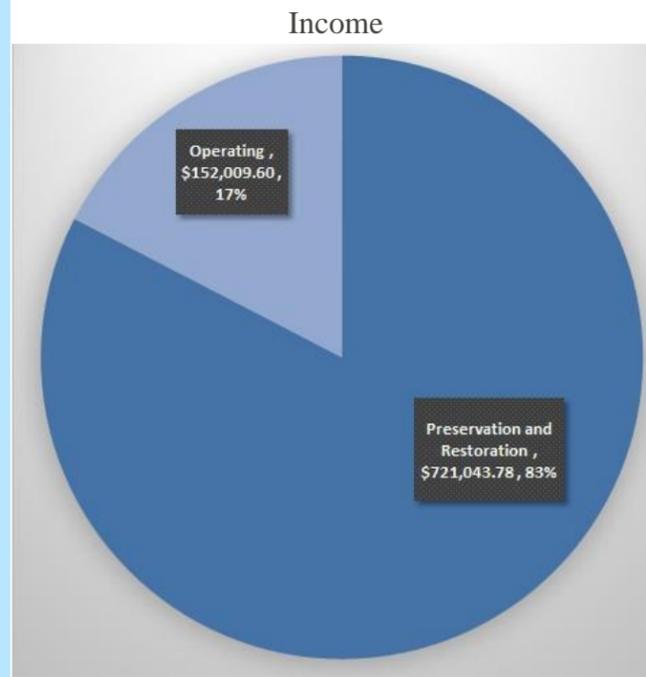
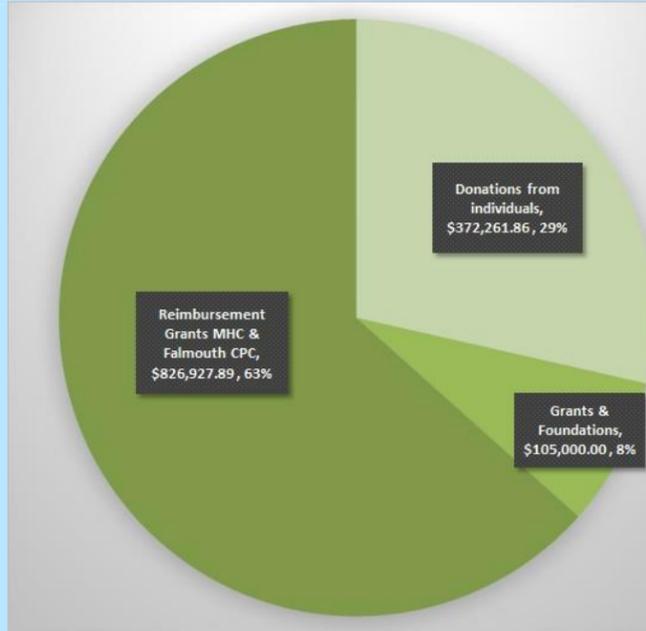
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