



# Sound Waves

A Monthly Newsletter from Save Our Sound

## DECEMBER 2024

### Alliance News & Notes

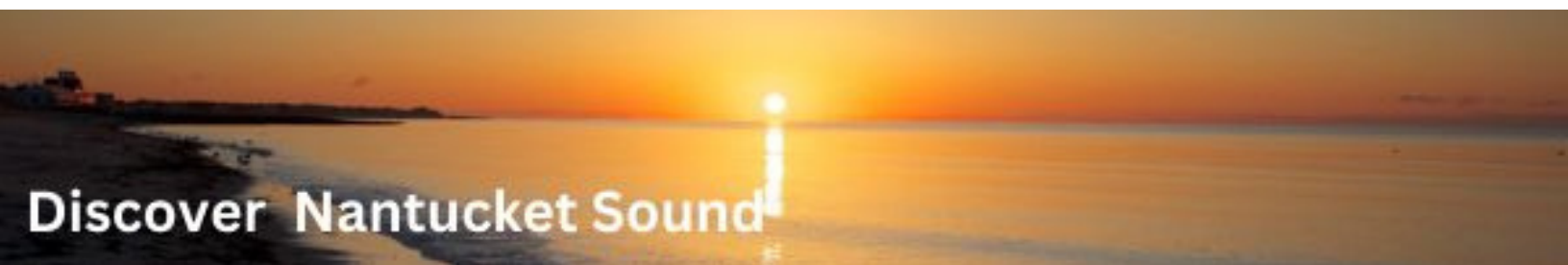
As we reflect on 2024, I want to express my deepest gratitude for your unwavering support of the Alliance to Protect Nantucket Sound. Together, we've made significant strides toward our mission of designating Nantucket Sound as a **National Historic Landmark** to preserve this iconic body of water for future generations.

This year has been marked by many highlights for the Alliance. We continued our legislative efforts with productive visits to Washington, D.C. to promote the **Nantucket Sound National Historic Landmark Act**. Our recent online petition campaign has gained incredible momentum, collecting over 1,700 signatures in just two months and amplifying the voices of nearly 100 stakeholder organizations. We also launched our monthly newsletter, Sound Waves at the beginning of the year, which has strengthened our connection with supporters and stakeholders. And through events, educational ACONS (A Celebration of Nantucket Sound) webinars, and partnerships, we've engaged deeply with the Cape and Islands community, building critical awareness and support for our cause

As we look toward 2025, we are committed to advancing our two-pronged approach to achieve National Historic Landmark status: **pursuing legislative designation** for Nantucket Sound through Congress and **administrative designation** through the Department of the Interior. With your support, we will continue to rally stakeholders, advocate for the Nantucket Sound National Historic Landmark Act, and push for permanent protection of this national treasure.

Your involvement remains essential to our success. If you haven't yet signed our petition, **we urge you to do so today**—it's a simple, but powerful way to make your voice heard. And as the year comes to a close, please consider making **a tax-free donation** to help us sustain and strengthen our efforts in the months ahead.

Thank you for standing with us. Wishing you a joyful holiday season and a bright New Year - ***Audra Parker, President***



## Holiday Magic Around Nantucket Sound



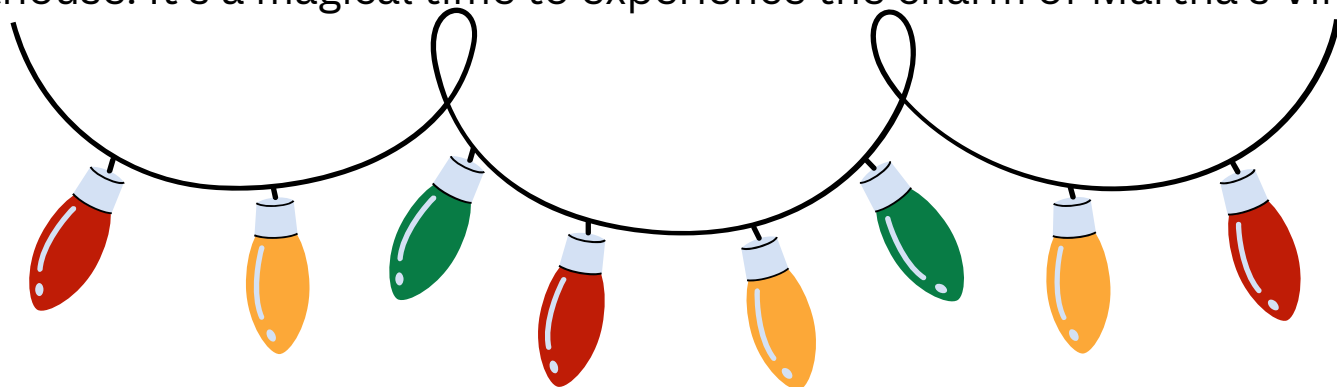
With holiday season in full swing, there's no better way to celebrate than by exploring the charming towns and festive traditions along Nantucket Sound. From sparkling lights to seasonal markets, these holiday highlights will fill your December with joy:

## 1. Hyannis Harbor Lights and Boat Parade

Overlooking Nantucket Sound, Hyannis Harbor comes alive during the holiday season with its annual boat parade on December 7 at 4pm. Festively lit boats cruise through the harbor, creating a magical sight. Visitors can also enjoy live music, local vendors, and holiday treats along the waterfront. The Holiday Stroll on Main Street is also on December 7 and takes place from 11am-3pm.

## 2. Christmas in Edgartown

This award-winning event invites visitors to enjoy Edgartown's quaint streets decked out in holiday cheer, from December 12-15. Situated near Nantucket Sound, the 43rd Annual Christmas in Edgartown includes festive strolls, a holiday parade, visits with Santa, and the lighting of the Edgartown Lighthouse. It's a magical time to experience the charm of Martha's Vineyard.



## 3. Falmouth's Holidays by the Sea

This beloved celebration includes a weekend of events (December 6-8), including the annual Falmouth Christmas Parade, one of the largest in the region. Located near the shores of Nantucket Sound, visitors can also see the illuminated Nobska Lighthouse and enjoy seasonal activities like tree lightings and festive markets.

## 4. Nantucket's Annual Christmas Stroll

Nantucket's famous Christmas Stroll transforms the island into a winter wonderland, December 6-8. The downtown area, overlooking Nantucket Harbor and Sound, is adorned with holiday lights and decorations. Visitors can enjoy carolers, a visit from Santa arriving by boat, and the island's unique festive charm. Don't miss the decorated Christmas trees and the special holiday shopping opportunities.



*This month, we put a spotlight on **John Flores**, the Vice President of Community Outreach for the Alliance. John brings a combined local, state and national perspective to our team. John serves on the Board of Trustees at Cape Cod Community College and the Board of Directors of the Cape Cod Museum of Natural History. As the former Vice President of the Barnstable Town Council, he is now an appointed member of the Cape Cod Gateway Airport Commission and Vice Chair of the Barnstable Licensing Authority. John earned his Bachelor of Science degree at UMass, Boston, his Masters at Boston University and his Ph.D. at the University of Connecticut*

## **1. What does Nantucket Sound mean to you?**

Nantucket Sound is a sacred place. As a sixth generation family Cape Codder via Provincetown, I have had the privilege of enjoying this beautiful body of water my entire life. It is filled with adventure, mystery, love, and on occasion, even anger. She is an inspiration. Whether it's recreational or commercial boating, fishing, swimming, oystering, clamming, or any type of Blue Economy experience, Nantucket Sound never lets you down. She pulls, she prods, she protects. Depending on the season, her moods change, but she is always the stalwart of true adventure. It is why millions of people pay homage every year. From her original indigenous inhabitants to all of us today, the Sound continues to resonate her past and present and I am excited for her future to arrive.

## **2. What are your favorite spots to visit around Nantucket Sound?**

Nantucket Sound has many special locations for me. From the entire southern coast of Cape Cod--from Hyannis to Nantucket to Martha's Vineyard, she possesses hundreds of quiet inlets, beautiful beaches, shoals, and salt marshes. My favorite locations are on Nantucket Island. I have been fortunate

and, in some ways, privileged to have lived on the island and to have many relatives who are natives. Smith's Point, Great Point, Cisco, Polpis, Cliff Beach, 40th Pole, and Jetties are filled with special moments and wonderful memories for me.

**3. How long have you been with the Alliance? Can you tell us a bit about your work as Vice President of Community Outreach?**

I have been with the Alliance since October 2023. My role is to increase awareness, visibility, and connection to established and new constituencies to fulfill our mission at the Alliance in securing permanent protection for Nantucket Sound by designating it as a National Historic Landmark.

**4. What do you enjoy doing in your spare time?**

I focus on recharging, relaxing, and enjoying life. Depending on the season, I love to boat, fish, oyster, and of course, attend my grandkids' school and sporting events. Reading a good book is always on my agenda too. I'm busy with various Boards and Commissions, all serving the needs of Barnstable, Cape Cod, and the Islands.

**The Alliance to Protect Nantucket Sound**  
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