



Sound Waves

A Monthly Newsletter from Save Our Sound

FEBRUARY 2025



Alliance News & Notes



Heading into February of this new year, we are navigating a changed political landscape spanning federal, state, and local levels, each playing a pivotal role in shaping the future of our cherished Nantucket Sound. At the forefront of this shift is a significant action by the new federal administration.

On January 20, the administration issued a memorandum entitled "**Temporary Withdrawal of All Areas on the Outer Continental Shelf from Offshore Wind Leasing and Review of the Federal Government's Leasing and Permitting Practices for Wind Projects.**" This directive, effective January 21, 2025, temporarily withdraws all federal waters from consideration

for the purposes of offshore wind development and calls for a review of existing leases. While this action prevents development in the short term, it remains temporary and limited to the current administration.

This policy shift underscores the importance of our mission at the Alliance. Designating Nantucket Sound as a National Historic Landmark provides permanent protection and recognition for this historically, culturally, and environmentally significant body of water. **The Sound's designation as a National Historic Landmark would safeguard it beyond temporary federal actions and changing political landscapes.**

We remain steadfast in our efforts to secure a lasting legacy for Nantucket Sound through Congressional action. Our work continues to prioritize the preservation of this unique and irreplaceable treasure for generations to come.

Thank you for your unwavering dedication to this cause. Together, we will make a lasting impact.

Warm regards,
Audra Parker, President

Discover Nantucket Sound

The Captain Jonathan Parker House

The **Captain Jonathan Parker House** is a gem of maritime history nestled in the heart of Osterville at the **Osterville Historical Museum**. Built in 1824, this beautifully preserved home was once the residence of Captain Parker, a prominent mariner whose life and work were closely tied to Nantucket Sound. The house offers a glimpse into 19th-century life on Cape Cod, highlighting the region's deep connection to

the sea and its storied past. The house contains 7 rooms of historical maps, 18th and 19th century furniture, art and ceramics. The Osterville Garden Club designed and maintains each year a 19th century ornamental garden that marks the entrance to the Museum.

Inside, visitors can explore period furnishings, maritime artifacts, and exhibits that tell the tales of local seafaring families and their enduring legacy. The museum grounds also feature a charming barn and other historic buildings, creating a rich tapestry of Cape Cod's heritage. Whether you're a history enthusiast or simply looking for a unique winter outing, the Captain Parker House is a must-visit destination that connects the community to the history of Nantucket Sound

For more places to discover in and around Nantucket Sound, please visit our website at www.saveoursound.org/explore.

Sound Spotlight



*This month, we put a spotlight on **Molly Conole**. Molly was raised by the sea on Martha's Vineyard. A pursuer of all things creative, Molly finds joy in life, especially through music - singing, writing songs and musical shows, recording, playing instruments, most especially with her husband **Mark Alan Lovewell** on their "Sunday at Sea" **Facebook LIVE program**. Next month, we will be featuring Mark, so stay tuned for that!*

1. What does Nantucket Sound mean to you?

I grew up spending my summers with my grandmother on the Sound. When I was 12, we moved from Massachusetts to California, but during the summer months, we stayed with Gram on the Cape. So for me, Nantucket Sound means coming home. It means summer days spent barefoot on the sand, running in and out of the waves, and summer nights fishing while looking out into the Sound. Nantucket Sound is where I learned how to sail a boat, where I made my best memories on the boat with my grandfather and father, where I spent every 4th of July, where I picked mussels with my children, and where my siblings and I came of age.

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

Living on Martha's Vineyard provides lovely opportunities to enjoy the western borders of the Sound. Mark and I will often "take the scenic route" along State Beach, on our almost daily drives between Vineyard Haven, Oak Bluffs and Edgartown. We can see how the Sound is "feeling" that day - white caps, a mirror-calm, muted greys or rich blue hues - they speak to us, helping us to know if it's a day we are being invited out onto her waters to enjoy a sail, or if we need to give her space to whip up a storm and let it pound and blow through. Sailing across her waters is an adventure not to be taken lightly, as she is a powerful body of water, in dialog with the winds and currents. We've been caught in her powers and rough seas, sailing across to her intersection with sister Vineyard Sound, and also experienced her nurturing spirits in her delightful and soothing calm, gently swirling whirlpool currents enroute to Nantucket. This is a body of water rich in personality, to be honored and respected.

3. Why do you support the efforts of the Alliance?

I love to perform in musicals, often with one or two of my three girls. Most recently, I had the pleasure of playing the role of Betty in White Christmas with the Massasoit Theatre Company, performing alongside my daughter, Elle, who is a senior in high school. When I'm not performing, I'm spending time with my wife, Len, and our other two girls, Reese and Ivy, and our numerous pets (2 dogs, 2 cats, and 3 chickens).

4. Tell us a bit about yourself - and how can we enjoy your music and see you perform live!

As a musician and songwriter living on Martha's Vineyard, I have a soul and creative sensitivity that finds inspiration in the beauty of the world around me. I have been fortunate, later in my life, to find a partner in life and music-making in **Mark Alan Lovewell**. We share a passion for giving voice to what we notice around us, in songs we have both written, like Mark's "Herring Song" and "Fisherman's Love Song" and my "Mother Earth" and "A Waterman's Journey." We love to share the stories of our beloved island community, that illuminate both the beautiful and the difficult parts, so that we might learn from all of this human experience living in and around the sea. We do a regular music and storytelling variety program on **Facebook Live** called "**Sunday at Sea**," which is also recorded to YouTube. Both can be found under "Mark Alan Lovewell," as originator of the show during Covid. We also have music on all the streaming services, and podcasts of our shows - more information about those and our upcoming live performances can be found at mollyandmark.com.

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