

# GLOUCESTER WRITERS CENTER

## ANNUAL REPORT

April 1, 2015 to March 31, 2016



## Letter from the Co-Directors

Dear Friends,

Each year when we put together the list of events for the Annual Report we are amazed at all that has happened at the Gloucester Writers Center. As you will see the past year was exceptional – Thank you to all the supporters who made it happen in so many ways - the writers, story tellers, listeners, volunteers, actors, students, teachers, board, staff and donors.

We took a quantum leap in October of 2015 when we became proud stewards of the Maud / Olson Library, featured in pages 3 - 7 of this report. To house the Library we expanded our “campus” by renting space at 108 East Main Street, down the street from GWC’s home base. We hope that you will visit soon.

We brought in new staff to help with our growth and expanded our administrative infrastructure in an intentional and sustainable way to support the future. The body of written work and recordings of the spoken word emanating from GWC events continued to accumulate – We worked on our new web-site and expanded our social media presence to keep more and more people informed and able to access our events online.



Charles Olson Portrait by Ephraim Doner (1905-1991)

1



We celebrated Cape Ann’s Literary Legacy with a rollicking Cabaret based on the words of TS Eliot, Vincent Ferrini, and Charles Olson. We also celebrated the young writers in our midst with Poetry Slams, the Amiri Baraka scholarship, and working with youth at Gloucester High School and Pathways for Children.

We can’t do justice to the depth of our many programs in a single report. Each year we feature one or two specific programs or projects in the Annual Report - this year the newly acquired Maud / Olson Library. Please go to our website at [gloucesterwriters.org](http://gloucesterwriters.org) to read more and to keep up with the latest news and upcoming events. As always, your feedback and comments are important to us.

*Annie Thomas Henry Ferrini*

Annie Thomas and Henry Ferrini



108 East Main Street



126 East Main Street

2



## How We Became Stewards of the Maud / Olson Library

The Maud / Olson Library came to Gloucester from Vancouver in October, 2015. It would not have come to the GWC without the single-minded commitment of GWC Board President and Director of the Maud / Olson Library, André Spears.

His friendship with Maud and his diligence in pursuing the collection helped realize Maud's dream in bringing it to Gloucester after Maud's death in December 2014. Book antiquarian and Olson scholar Gregory Gibson and GWC Co-Founder and Filmmaker Henry Ferrini went to pick up the Library in Vancouver on an epic roadtrip, recorded in the upcoming Film "The Door is Open: Charles Olson".

The story of the Library began decades ago when Ralph Maud, scholar, writer, friend of Charles Olson, had the idea to create a collection of all the books the poet Charles Olson ever owned, read or referred to. André has written on the past and current history of the Library in a piece featured at [gloucesterwriters.com](http://gloucesterwriters.com) entitled *Maud, Olson and Me*. Speaking on the genesis of his desire to bring the Library to Gloucester he says: "my interest, as part of the GWC, was in establishing an institutional foothold for a

not-for-profit arts organization that would allow energies to coalesce around Olson's work. In its own small way — in line nonetheless with Olson's vision — the remarkable success of the GWC in the years since its foundation points to the fulfillment of a need for community that the focus on the art of writing provides. With the GWC's growing success, it also became evident that the GWC was fundamentally well-positioned to accommodate Maud's archival monument to Olson's intellect."



André Spears with the newly arrived boxes of books at 108 East Main Street.

To read André Spears' entire piece go to the [Maud / Olson Library link on gloucesterwriters.org](http://gloucesterwriters.com)

## Developing the Maud / Olson Library

by Judith Nast

As a neighbor and an attendee at many GWC programs, I was delighted to be able to pitch in to help get the new Library in order. What began as a volunteer position helping reconcile the physical collection with the catalogue morphed into a project management position over a winter lunch at a local Chinese restaurant.

With the collection of books, periodicals, ephemera and reference books in a semblance of order, the work going forward was twofold. First, with Gregor Gibson's guidance, plans were made to stabilize this library, that is, finding appropriate boxes, envelopes, pouches and book jackets to protect the oldest and most frail. Along with that came labeling materials so that finding a particular item was possible without opening each book to see Ralph Maud's bookplate with his numbering system and comments. We've made great progress and that work continues with a terrific group of volunteers and interns.

The second focus of the work has been to identify an online cataloguing database product appropriate for this freestanding, small library so that not only interested people locally, but also scholars world-wide, can access its catalogue of books, images and recordings.

Jeff Johnson generously applied his knowledge and skills to take the existing word document catalogue and transfer it to a spreadsheet, a searchable transitional structure that can be easily imported into the database once it is chosen. As the collection is organized by author, the catalogue will give people the ability to search the Library not only for author, but for time period, location and subject matter.



My hope is that people will come to see and use the collection, sit at Olson's desk and look out at the harbor. It's a remarkable collection and I'm so glad that its home is here in Gloucester with the Gloucester Writers Center.

## 3500 Miles - 3500 Books

### *Driving Olson's Brain: A Dive Into the Maud/Olson Library*

by Gregor Gibson

"The truly epic part of our journey didn't begin until we got the books to Gloucester and began shelving and organizing them. That was when we began to truly comprehend the sprawling, gorgeous, deep, murderous, hilarious, inscrutable quality of Olson's Brain.

Ralph Maud, the highly regarded academician and admirable Quixotean, didn't stop at obtaining copies of Olson's books. He tracked down every original he could find – about 1500 of them survive, scattered in institutions across America and Canada – and transcribed the notes Olson wrote into the duplicate copies in his collection. Now the books in the Maud/Olson library bear tens of thousands of Olson's annotations, exclamations and underlinings, transcribed verbatim by Maud from the Olson originals.

That task must have required thousands of man hours. How did he find the time? How did he push through the tedium? But even then Maud wasn't finished. Inside the front cover of every one of the books in his collection, he pasted his Maud / Olson library bookplate. And on each bookplate he wrote a concise explanation of how Olson had used that particular book in his work – sometimes even citing the page numbers containing the material that Olson incorporated



Outside of Garrison Keillor's office in Minneapolis, MN



Columbia River Washington State

directly into one of his poems. Thousands more man hours, though probably not as tedious. Thank you, Ralph.

We enter that library now, and we are inside a poet's brain, with this magnificent "Curriculum" for understanding him and ourselves arrayed around us like stars in the sky. We are curious, inspired. We interrogate Maud who interrogates Olson who interrogates the universe."

Read more at the Maud / Olson Library link at [gloucesterwriters.org](http://gloucesterwriters.org)



Olson guides the way.



Truck Stop Route I-94 - Jamestown, North Dakota



28 Fort Square, Gloucester



Henry Ferrini and Greg Gibson back home.



## Maud / Olson Library

Peter Anastas: "Visitors to the Maud/Olson Library — writers, scholars, and those who want to feel and see and hear what Olson experienced — will be able to sit at the head of that table, as Olson did each night, or each morning. They will have access to the more than 3500 volumes of Olson's working library that scholar Ralph Maud replicated, just as if they were sitting in Olson's own home. They will also have an incredible view of Gloucester harbor from that desk, through windows that bring the outside in, just as Olson looked both inwardly and outwardly while doing the reading and research that made his immense achievement, *The Maximus Poems*, possible."



Peter Anastas



### *Summer hours:*

The Library is open for visits from 1 to 5 on Monday and Wednesday afternoons from June 20th throughout the summer. Books can be read on-site.

Project Director Judith Nast is overseeing the cataloguing and developing the data base so that scholars world-wide can access its catalogues of books, images and recordings.



Isaac Ferrini and André Spears



Endicott Intern Kevin Costello

If you would like to volunteer or learn more about the ongoing plans for the Maud / Olson Library e-mail Judith at [maud-olson@gloucesterwriters.org](mailto:maud-olson@gloucesterwriters.org)



## 2016: The year of the archive

by Henry Ferrini

As a small non-profit begun in 2010, we hardly had a bookcase - now we are looking for a storage facility. The two major archives born over the last year represent a repository of history and a homecoming as well. André Spears and Greg Gibson worked together to bring Ralph Maud's unique library to Gloucester.

In April of 2015 we worked with father and son volunteer team Rob and Ken Philpot to bring Simon Geller's WVCA archive online. For decades it was stored in damp boxes in my moldy basement. Now, WVCA.COM streams over 700 hours of Simon's music to listeners all over the world. In addition, we have continued in our ongoing documentation of most GWC programming via podcast and Youtube that are accessible on the web and through social media.



What is the value of all this? Ammiel Alcalay said at our recent Gala celebrating the library that "It's about resistance to throwing things out." Not only books and papers but music, ideas, even people. Our throw-away culture runs deep.



Charles Olson's bookplate

*Bemoan the present  
which assumes  
its taste, bemoan the easiness  
of smashing anything*  
- Charles Olson

Our work of preserving the past to enrich the present and better inform the future is manifest in all our work at the GWC. Our archives are key resources.

## Education Programs

The Gloucester Writers Center offered a variety of classes and workshops during 2015-2016.

Ann McArdle's Elements of Story and Write On! classes ran in the spring and in the fall, giving writers a chance to continue working on longer pieces. Ellen Szabo ran two one-day workshops, Saving the World One Word at a Time and Love and Apocalypse, as well as several memoir workshops. M. Lynda Robinson's 10-Minute Playwriting classes continued to bring new stories to the stage.

Our community workshops continued to help many in our community find their voices. Dorothy Nelson's Veterans Writing Workshop, offered in collaboration with the Gloucester Office of Veterans Services, ran in the spring and fall, culminating in a reading each session. A Group of One's Own, a weekly writing group for women, offered a safe and supportive place for women to develop their writing. Mining the Hat, the weekly poetry group, explored various forms from Tankas to songwriting. The Working Waterfront Writing Group, offered in collaboration with Maritime Gloucester, helped draw out stories from the docks and the open sea.

The Gloucester Writers Center held two Write-On-Site workshops. They first met at Fitz Henry Lane Park and used the vantage point to focus on details great and small of the harbor. The second was hosted by Ocean Alliance at the iconic Paint Factory.



Abby Cook



Women's Writers Group writing on-site at Pavilion Beach

## Bringing Poetry to Children

by Amanda Cook

This past year I have been bringing poetry in to Pathways for Children, reading to preschoolers and helping them write their own poems. The idea was to open poetry up to them as a way to understand the world and to express their own ideas. I wanted them to know that their words and their ideas were important.

I began by reading to them — everything from Edward Lear and Shel Silverstein to Emily Dickinson and William Blake. We read poems about the seasons and the weather, about dragons and birds and mothers and fathers.

We read poems about feeling lonely and happy and angry and small. After reading we would write poems, sometimes as a class, sometimes individually. As the children told me their lines I wrote them down and read them back for accuracy. I would then read each poem out loud to them so they could hear it in its entirety and gave them their poems to take home.

As the children became more familiar with the idea their poems and their interest in poetry became stronger. One class listened to *The Mermaid's Purse* by Ted Hughes, imaging each of the creatures in the poems. One little boy had me read all the William Blake poems I had with me, beginning and ending with "The Tyger" and repeating it in the middle as well. Their poems, which had started as lists of things they liked, started to focus on ideas and themes. As they became more sure of themselves the children began to take risks with language, using metaphors, playing with sounds, and enjoying the wonder of their own words.



Bobbie Wayne plays the harp at "A Child's Christmas in Wales" which has become a regular event





## The Calendar

April 1 Veronica Golos reads from her new collection, *Rootwork*.



Veronica Golos being introduced by JoeAnn Hart



Casey Buckles

April 6 Open Mic.

April 8 Shahr Brahm presents Tuvia Ruebner – one of Israel's most accomplished poets.

April 9 *Pulitzer (Act One)*: a 2-act play in development between playwright M.Lynda Robinson and actor/dancer Tess Degan.

April 15 Reading by Gloucester writers Casey Buckles and Peter Anastas.

April 28 Write On Site: Fitz Henry Lane Park.

April 29 Jay Livernois speaks on Charles Boer.

May 3 Author Sandy Tolan speaks on his latest book *Children of the Stone*, at city hall, sponsored by the Cape Ann Forum and the GWC.

May 6 Charlotte Gordon reads from her new book *Romantic Outlaws*; a book about Mary Wolstonecraft and her daughter, Mary Shelley.

May 13 *Diggers: Eugenics* – lead by Susan Erony and Wendy Fitting.

May 16 Social Media Workshop given by Barbara Oliver.

May 17 Teen Open Mic.

May 19 Lynn Loscuttoff reads from her book *Loscy and Me*.



Jay Livernois



Lynn Loscuttoff and Ken Riaf

## The Calendar

May 22 Fish Tales: Rock and Roll – held at Short and Main in Gloucester.

May 23 Writers Dan Bouchard and Joseph Torra read at GWC.

May 27 Gerrit Lansing and Derek Fenner read at GWC.

May 30 Write On Site: The Paint Factory.

June 1 Open Mic.

June 7 Seven Playwrights with 7 plays: a staged reading of plays from M. Lynda Robinson's 10-minute play workshop.



Cyndi Geller (l) with Jacci Lufkin (r) looking on. 8th Staged Readings, April 2015



M. Lynda Robinson (l) reading Stage Directions for Susan Frey's play *House of Cards* - June Lewin (r) - 8th Staged Readings, April 2015

## The Calendar

June 10 Poetry Reading by Patrick Barron and Jill McDonough.

June 20 *Poet's Cabaret II* & Dancing on the Dock – our fifth anniversary celebration, held at Maritime Gloucester.



Jill McDonough and Patrick Barron



Henry Ferrini and Annie Thomas kick off the 5th Anniversary Gala

June 21 Annual Meeting.

July 6 Teen Open Mic.

July 6 Open Mic at GWC.

July 8 Reading by Janice Josephine Carney and Marc Levy.



Marc Levy



Janice Josephine

## The Calendar

July 15 Reading by Writer in Residence Michael Boughn, and GWC Board President André Spears.

July 16 Conversation with Michael Boughn about his new essay: *Charles Olson, Empire, and the Thinking of America.*



André Spears with Michael Boughn

July 22 Reading with Steve Luttrell and P.D. Callahan.

July 29 Reading with Moira Linehan and Mary Pinard.



Vincent at his Day of the Dead Alter, the typewriter. Board Member William Taylor installed the Pencil signage behind Vincent typing. Today it is a Gloucester landmark.



Mary Pinard Moira Linehan



## The Calendar

- August 3 GWC Open Mic at the Eastern Point Lit House.  
 August 5 Reading and conversation with Writer in Residence, Ron Silliman.  
 August 7 Fish Tales: Storytellers Choice – Anything Goes at the Rocky Neck Cultural Center.  
 August 8 *Love and Apocalypse, Externalize Your Inner Apocalypse*: a reading and writers workshop lead by Ellen Szabo.  
 August 12 Pulitzer Prize winner Stephen Dunn reads from *The Keeper of Limits: The Mrs. Cavendish Poems*.  
 August 17 Fish Tales: Home. A workshop held on the schooner, Adventure.  
 August 26 Writer in Residence Michael Basinski reads at the GWC.  
 September 2 Jonathan Bayliss Birthday Bash and the Labor of Writers, held at Rocky Neck Cultural Center. Annual birthday bash in honor of the late writer, Jonathan Bayliss.  
 September 2 Open Mic at GWC.  
 September 9 Poem du Jour with Richard Wyndham.  
 September 12 Fish Tales: Home. A workshop held on the schooner, Adventure.



Jim Dowd and Bo Abrams aboard Adventure. Jim told a humorous Fish Tale about trying to impress his then girlfriend Ms. Abrams.

- September 19 Diggers: Dogtown, lead by Mary Ellen Lepionka.  
 September 23 A reading with Audrey Mardavich, Jim Dunn, and Mitch Manning.



Jim Dunn speaks.

## The Calendar

- September 25 *All the Time Before & All the Time After*: Dinner with the writer, Greg Gibson.  
 September 26 A memorial celebration of the writer, Ken Irby.



Ken Irby  
 Poet, Professor at University of Kansas and friend of the GWC  
 11.18.36 - 7.30.15

- October 3 Michael McClure gives a lecture on Charles Olson at the Cape Ann Museum.  
 October 5 Open Mic at the GWC.  
 October 9 Teen Fish Tales, Open Mic and Live Music.  
 October 17 *Afflicting the Comfortable*: a dinner with writer, Jim Dowd.  
 October 20 Reading with Simon Pettet.  
 October 24 *Writing Sound to Sound*: poetry workshop with Mary Pinard and Moira Linehan.  
 October 24 Diggers: Artspace.  
 October 28 Reading with poets Elisabeth Weiss and J.D. Scrimgeour, Musical accompaniment by Phil Swanson.  
 October 29 College Essay Night at the GWC.  
 November 1 College Essay Night at the GWC.



Phil Swanson and J.D. Scrimgeour



Elisabeth Weiss

## The Calendar

November 2 Open Mic at the GWC.

November 6 Fish Tales: I Fought The Law, held at Short and Main.

November 7 Diggers: Dogtown College.



Dogtown College participants circa 1970's

November 11 Kate Tarlow Morgan, a writer and dancer, reads from old and new work, as well as an excerpt from her *Monsieur Teste* Part II called *The Train to Paris*.

November 15 Endicott Writers: writers from Endicott College give a reading.

November 18 Will Allen – *From Malthus to Monsanto*. Will Allen gives a lecture on his research into industrial agricultural farming.

November 19 College Essay Night at the GWC.

November 23 Peter Albert Todd: A Benefit Reading for Gloucester's Poet Laureate. Held at Cape Ann Cinema and Stage.

December 4 Past Fish Tales Participants gather at Cape Ann TV to tell stories.

December 7 Open Mic at the GWC.

December 9 *A Child's Christmas in Wales*, held at the GWC.

January 8 A Teen Night at The Hive.



Teen night at the Hive  
Corey Wrinn and Matt Rich of the band SurfinSamsara

## The Calendar

January 20 Writer - Jonathan Strong gives a reading.

February 1 Open Mic.

February 12 Fish Tales: *Tattoo Show and Tell*, at Short and Main.



85 people crowded Short & Main for Fish Tales *Tattoo Show and Tell*. Sarah Slifer-Swift tells her tale.

February 17 Reading by writers John Ronan and Claire Keyes.

February 27 A celebration with readings from the third issue of *Let the Bucket Down*.

March 4 *From Here to Flustuania*: a Benefit for the GWC, at Rocky Neck Cultural Center.

March 7 Open Mic.

March 13 International Women's Day reading, at the GWC.

March 20 Ten-Minute Play Staged Reading, at Rocky Neck Cultural Center.

March 23 JoeAnn Hart and Gregory Gibson read.

March 30 Don Wellman reads: *Roman Exercises*.

March 31 A benefit screening of Sarah Green's *Midnight Special* grosses over \$2000 for GWC. Thank you, Sarah!





## Writers in Residence

Between April and November seven writers came to work and share their gifts with the Cape Ann community.



In April Shahar Bram professor of Hebrew & Comparative Literature at University of Haifa read and lectured on the work of Hebrew poet Tuvia Ruebner.



Michael McClure gave the Sixth Annual Olson Lecture at the Cape Ann Museum in October 2015.



Sam Cook goes over a McClure poem that he liked with the poet.

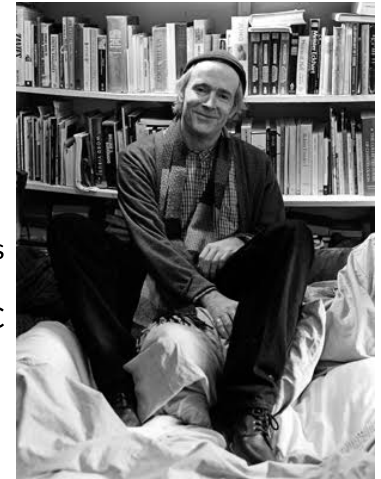
Kate Tarlow Morgan performs a short preview from her developing performance/dance *The Train to Paris*.



## Writers in Residence



Text, visual and sound poet Michael Basinski entertains at the GWC last July. Mike is the curator of The Poetry/Rare Books Collection at SUNY Buffalo.



Simon Pettet reads from *Hearth* and his new Talisman book *As a Bee* during his October stay at the GWC



As a July 2015 resident, Mike Boughn gave a wonderful reading from his recent work *City*. In addition he spoke to Charles Olson and *The Thinking of America*.

In August Ron Silliman read and spoke to a crowded GWC on *Post-Anthropocene Poetics*. The poet/critic has written and edited over 30 books, and his poetry and criticism had been translated into 14 languages.



## Fifth Anniversary Celebration

The 5th Anniversary Celebration was held on June 20th at Maritime Gloucester. Over 250 people came together for buffet on the dock catered by Bonne Bouche Caterers and a cabaret under the tent titled *Poets Cabaret II*, a rollicking show in verse produced by Henry Ferrini, written by M. Lynda Robinson and Ann McArdle and directed by M Lynda Robinson.

The three famous Gloucester poets, Eliot, Ferrini, and Olson, are summoned by a muse to return from the dead. Local talents including Willie Alexander, Gordon Baird, Charlee Bianchini, Jo-Ann Castano, Rebecca Dowd, Henry and Isaac Ferrini, Brian King, Elizabeth McKim, Michael McNamara, Kate Tarlow Morgan, Sally Nutt, Lila Olson, Karen Ristuben, George Sibley, Sarah Slifer-Swift, Mark St. Pierre and Carl Thomsen comprised the cast.

Over 40 other volunteers helped to make the evening memorable – Thank you to all who worked and watched – over \$20,000 was netted for the work of the Gloucester Writers Center.



Vincent Ferrini, played by Jo-Ann Castano, returns for the Fifth Annual Gala.

## Fifth Anniversary Celebration



George Sibley and the cast of children



5th Anniversary Welcome Table



Charles Olson, played by Mark St. Pierre, T.S. Eliot, played by George Sibley, & Vincent Ferrini, played by Jo-Ann Castano, are re-enacted for the Fifth Annual Gala.



Karen Ristuben



Brian King



Jack Tomaiolo and Charlee Bianchini



Willie Alexander



## More Events

Members of the Finish Line Writers Group continued to provide much needed help to GWC during the year including event support, help with mailings, and creative gardening. Including volunteers from the Library Project and special events, over 100 people contributed time and talent to the GWC during FY 2016.



Volunteers from The Finish Line Writers Group at the 5th Anniversary Gala: Cindy Schimanski, Cindy Hendrickson, and Jane Keddy, along with non-profit consultant Vicki Lindsay.



Michael McClure, Ed Sanders, Amy Evans McClure and Ammiel Alcalay

Advisory Board Member Kate Colby reads her long poem, *I Mean*.



Eliot records Stephen Dunn for the Archive



Virginia McKinnon at Fish Tales



Shep Abbott



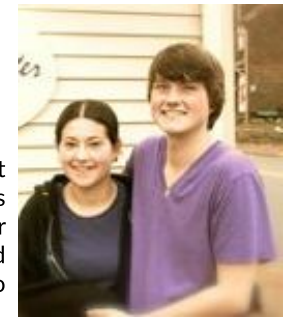
Willie Alexander

## Volunteers

During FY 2016 volunteers provided creativity, inspiration, sweat and labor as the GWC programs expanded. They worked during the course of the year to maintain the building at 126 East Main Street, prepare the space at 108 East Main Street to receive the Maud / Olson Library, help with mailings, put on the major fundraising event, digitize the Simon Gellar Tapes, help with the regular literary events, sponsor dinners, garden, etc. We furthered collaborative relationships with UMass Lowell, UMass Boston, Endicott College, CUNY, Maritime Gloucester, Gloucester High School, Cape Ann Museum, and Pathways for Children through events, shared presentations, internships, and visits to GWC by groups interested in Gloucester's literary history.



2015 Amiri Baraka Scholarship Winner Spencer Taft reads at Fish Tales, produced by Maureen Aylward.



Endicott Interns Ellen Pulitzer and Kevin Costello



Greg Morrell and Jay McLauchlan build out the Maud / Olson Library, above and right.



Thanks to Jay and Greg, as well as Owen Ferrini, Gerry Frank, Brooks Gibson for their help with construction expertise, and Jeff Johnson, & Martin Ray for their tech help at the Maud / Olson Library.

## Foundation Donors

Bruce J Anderson Foundation  
Caldwell Foundation  
Taylor, Ganson, Perrin  
Women's Fund of ECCF  
Kanter Kallman Foundation  
Fredman Family Fund  
Lobster Cove Foundation  
Galen Gibson Memorial Trust

## Business Donors

Cape Ann Savings Bank  
Anthony and Dodge PC  
Lucas Noble Financial  
Boston Fence  
Geoffrey H. Richon /Company



Thank You to the many donor who gave over 250 donations ranging from \$5 To \$50,000 during the FY 2016, amounting to almost \$120,000 in individual contributions. You make the Gloucester Writers Center happen!

## Governance

The GWC Board of Directors continued work with consultant Vicki Lindsay to establish the best of non-profit practices as recognized by the Boston Foundation's Giving Common and GuideStar's Charting Impact guidelines. Because of this work our basic organizational information, including up to date board lists, mission statements, financials, program information, tax information, etc. can be accessed at any time by going to the Boston Foundation Giving Common website and the GuideStar website and typing in Gloucester Writers Center.

André Spears assumed the presidency, Annie Thomas continued as Clerk and Brenda Hiltz of Anthony Dodge continued to serve as treasurer. We also added the office of Vice-President to the Board Leadership Team with Wendy Fitting becoming the first VP. Ann McArdle came on to help with bookkeeping and organization. In March of 2016, bookkeeper Andria Picano was hired to replace Ann McCardle who planned to leave at the end of April of 2016. Amanda Cook and Steve Brettler worked hard to create the new GWC website which debuted in May, 2016. In February 2016 Judith Nast was hired to help with the organization and cataloguing of the new Maud / Olson Library as Project Director.

The staff expansion, funded by a large grant from the Belinda Foundation at the end of FY2015 is part of a two-year plan to establish the administrative infrastructure to ensure the productivity of GWC into the future. The Board held its annual retreat for a day of reflection and visioning in October. New board member Dan Duffy who has had years of professional experience in strategic planning led the board retreat in envisioning the future.



Vicki Lindsay



Board members Charlee Bianchini and Amanda Cook at the board retreat in October 2015



## Financials

The combination of mailings, events, grants, and individual giving along with a large single donation to ensure the development of the Maud / Olson Library combined to produce another great fundraising year for the GWC.

### Gloucester Writers Center Balance Sheet As of March 31, 2016

ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
Cape Ann Savings - Checking	\$ 29,976
Cape Ann Savings - Library	25,552
PayPal	4,854
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>\$ 60,382</b>
Fixed Assets	
Building	31,364
Building Improvement	14,138
Furniture and Equipment	1,533
Land	67,846
Library	25,179
<b>Total Fixed Assets</b>	<b>\$ 140,060</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 200,442</b>
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accruals	275
Short Term Loans	20,000
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$ 20,275</b>
Equity	
Unrestricted Net Assets	168,546
Net Income	11,622
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>\$ 180,167</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>	<b>\$ 200,442</b>

No assurance is provided for these financial statements

### Gloucester Writers Center Profit and Loss April 2015 - March 2016

<b>INCOME</b>	
Individual Contributions	91,667
Grants	16,000
Event & Program Income	20,529
Education Income	5,780
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 133,976</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>	
Advertising and Promotion	454
Automobile Expense	298
Bank Service Charges	399
Computer and Internet Expenses	1,917
Contracted Services	7,584
Education	1,650
Event Expenses	
Promotional Materials	2,243
Food & Beverages	2,937
Rent and facility costs	2,687
<b>Total Fundraising Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 7,867</b>
Insurance Expense	1,373
Interest Expense	504
Meals and Entertainment	2,129
Miscellaneous Expenses	388
Office Supplies	3,266
Payroll Expenses	
Payroll Service Fees	737
Payroll Taxes	12,267
Salaries & Wages	66,403
<b>Total Payroll Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 79,406</b>
Postage and Delivery	270
Printing	610
Program Expense	2,168
Rent Expense	9,350
Repairs and Maintenance	1,611
Scholarship	500
Utilities	1,510
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 123,254</b>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<b>\$ 10,722</b>
Other Income	
Interest Income	151
Feasibility Study	750
<b>Total Other Income</b>	<b>\$ 901</b>
<b>NET INCOME</b>	<b>11,622</b>

No assurance is provided for these financial statements

## Maud / Olson Library Steering Committee

Peter Anastas      Wendy Fitting      Judith Nast  
John Faulise      Greg Gibson      André Spears  
Henry Ferrini      Gerrit Lansing      Annie Thomas

Director: André Spears  
Project Manager: Judith Nast  
Library Support: Wendy Fitting



Steering Committee members  
André Spears, John Faulise, Annie Thomas,  
Greg Gibson and Gerrit Lansing in the Maud / Olson Library

## GWC Staff 2015-2016

Co-directors: Henry Ferrini, Annie Thomas  
Admin. Team Members: Amanda Cook, Ann McArdle and Andria Picano  
Teachers: Amanda Cook, Ann McArdle, Dorothy Shubow Nelson,  
M. Lynda Robinson, Ellen Szabo  
Artist-in-residence: Susan Erony  
Poster Design: Helen Anne Lind  
Report, Program Design and Mailing Support: Renata Greene  
Non-profit Consultant: Vicki Lindsay and Geoffrey Thomas  
Fish Tales Producer: Maureen Aylward  
Webmaster: Steve Brettler [smallfish-design.com](http://smallfish-design.com)

## Gloucester Writers Center

### Board of Directors

André Spears- President  
Rev. Wendy Fitting - Vice-Pres.  
Brenda Hiltz –Treasurer  
Annie Thomas - Clerk  
Charlee Bianchini  
Amanda Cook  
Dan Duffy  
Henry Ferrini  
Greg Gibson  
JoeAnn Hart  
Amielle Major  
William Taylor

### Advisory Board

Ammiel Alcalay, Peter Anastas,  
Shahar Bram, Andrei Codrescu,  
Kate Colby, Fred Dewey, Diane di Prima,  
Mark Kurlansky, Gerrit Lansing,  
Dorothy Shubow Nelson, Ken Riaf, Esq.,  
Michael Rumaker, Ed Sanders, Anne Waldman

### For more information on

GWC board member and teacher bios,  
podcasts and videos, the Maud / Olson Library,  
upcoming events and our calendar, go to  
[gloucesterwriters.org](http://gloucesterwriters.org)



POP UP cultural exchange photo sent as greeting to the people of  
Raiano, Italy to celebrate Vincent Ferrini's 102nd birthday  
and the Buona Festival of Cherries.

Photo credits: Henry Ferrini and Renata Greene  
Cover Photo: Charles A. Lowe Collection at the Cape Ann Museum