

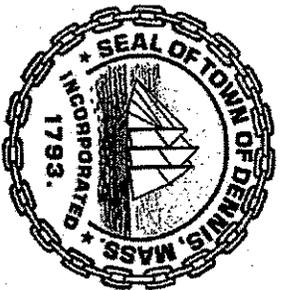
## Who was Caleb Chase?

Caleb was born December 11, 1831 in West Harwich to Job Chase and his second wife, Phoebe. Caleb was the last of Job's seventeen children and the twelfth son. While his brothers followed their father to sea, Caleb's fascination lay in business. He tended his family's ship chandler's store at the Depot Street Wharf in Dennis Port until he was twenty-three.

Caleb went to Boston searching for fame and fortune, like many other Cape Cod boys. He found it. Within eight years he was a prosperous coffee merchant. He later merged with the Sanborn Coffee Company ultimately taking over vast plantations around the world.

Caleb married a Boston socialite and they lived in Brookline. Their life was sumptuous in the city, but simple every summer when they returned home, where Caleb's heart would always be.

He was very generous with both Harwich and Dennis during his life. When he died 100 people accompanied his body from Boston to the funeral at the West Harwich Baptist Church. He was buried in Pine Grove Cemetery among his family, old friends and neighbors.



## Establishment of the Caleb Chase Trust Fund

In 1909 Caleb Chase, founder of the Chase and Sanborn Coffee Company bequeathed \$10,000.00 each to the towns of Harwich and Dennis, MA where he was born and grew up. This money was to be set up as a trust fund, with the yearly interest to be distributed among the elderly needy.

When Caleb came home each summer he visited all his old friends and relatives. Some of them were well off and some were not. To those in need he always left them with a gift of money. His intent in setting up the trust fund was to continue his philanthropy beyond his lifetime.

In 1909, \$10,000.00 was a considerable amount of money and it earned sufficient interest to fulfill his intent. Also there was not a large number of people who qualified for his gift because the population was small.

Times change and in recent years the interest rate has fallen to very little. In 2005 the recipients received only \$25.00 each. The trustees started searching for a way to increase the fund.

It was suggested by a town employee to add a line to the tax bill to make a tax deductible donation to the Caleb Chase Fund.

With the help of Representative Cleon Turner and Senator Rob O'Leary a bill was introduced into the Massachusetts Legislature to do that. It passed and the tax bills of 2007 brought in the first donations.

The trustee's goal is to increase the principal until it will be self-sustaining. Our hope is to keep the support of our elderly needy in force for another hundred years. This can only happen with the help of the entire community. Your help is sincerely requested.

*Credits:*

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*Photo by Nicole Muller*

Please make your check payable to:

The Caleb Chase Fund

Send to:

Treasurer

Town of Dennis

P.O. Box 2060

South Dennis, MA 02660

Name:

Street:

Post Office Box:

Town & State:

Zip Code:

### How You Can Help?

A small gift can go a long way.

**Your gift is tax deductible.**

We thank you!

Trustees:

Phyllis Horton

Margaret Eastman

Nancy Thacher Reid

Richardson Reid

Elinor Slade

# The Caleb Chase

## Trust Fund

Established  
To benefit the  
Elderly Needy  
In Dennis

