



ANNUAL MEMBER NEWSLETTER

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June 2015

From the President

Dear Friends,

Cumberland is an irreplaceable treasure full of immense biodiversity and immeasurable historic importance. Walking in the woods with my grandchildren, I am reminded once again how to see and listen through the eyes and ears of child. We talk about “why,” “what” and “what if.” We listen, imagining we are explorers in a foreign land or time, wondering where the birds go in a storm, where the water flows from here and why that tree is shaped so strangely or differently from the others.

In order to make conservation efforts endure, we must emotionally engage far more people with nature. At a time when many trends of our society seem to be working directly against this goal, this task takes on its greatest urgency with our children. Sue Bundy’s article highlights the important role this plays in instilling deep conservation values and preserving our legacy.

We have increasing responsibility for how we treat this world. Individual actions have an even greater impact. Every decision we make affects not only us, but those who come after us. Every day we see the results of the actions we have already taken; our air, our water, our land and the products of our land reflect human decisions, they all affect our existence.

2015 looks to be another exciting year for our organization. We hope you’ll follow our successes through our newsletter and on our website. It’s only together that we can protect the land we all share.

We are grateful for the continued dedication and support of our members and volunteers, and for the ongoing support of our Corporate Partners

See you on our trails,

Randy Tuomisto

UPCOMING EVENTS

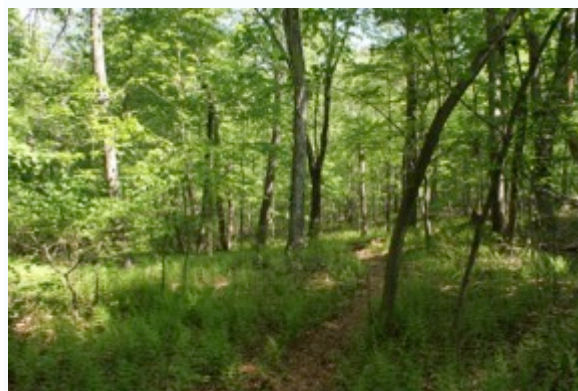
- Land Trust Days – Saturday, August 22nd – Page 2
- Annual Meeting, Saturday, October 17th
- 9th Annual Wine Tasting, Fri. Nov. 13th – Page 2

Time to Get Outdoors!

By Sue Bundy, Board member

Spring has arrived and it’s a great time to get outdoors. Both kids and their parents can experience the natural world by taking a hike on trails available at the Cumberland Land Trust public preserves. It’s more important than ever to get kids outdoors. Nationally, there is growing attention to the decline in the amount of time children spend outdoors. According to the National Wildlife Federation, “American childhood has moved indoors during the last two decades, taking a mental and physical toll on today’s kids. The negative impact of decreased time outdoors includes a doubling of the childhood obesity rate--accompanied by an incremental hundred billion dollar cost to our health care system--as well as declining creativity, concentration and social skills.” Although many older residents will readily recall fondly their favorite climbing tree or other special outdoor place they explored as kids, many children today are simply not getting outside enough to have similar experiences.

Pictured below is one example of our beautiful trails. This trail is on Scott Road, Otis Smith Farm.



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Getting outdoors continued...

Yet it's really important for our future that kids get outside. They need to experience nature to develop an appreciation of the environment around them: hearing the rustling of leaves in the wind, feeling the bark of a tree or watching a hawk soar. Nature provides them with a sense of wonder and a deeper understanding of our responsibility to take care of the Earth, says Richard Louv, author



of "Last Child in the Woods: Saving Our Children from Nature Deficit-Disorder". Research at Cornell University backs up this point where it was found that the **most direct route to caring for the environment as an adult is participating in "wild nature activities" before the age of 11.** (*Wells and Lekies, 2006 study*) *So to nurture the next generation of environmental stewards, we need to get our kids outside. Go ahead –*

turn off the TV, computer and tablet! Get outside and enjoy a walk in the woods. You might be pleasantly surprised by the flora and fauna that abounds in Cumberland. Details about the



CLT properties open to the public are available on the website under "public preserves brochures". Otis Smith and High Rock Preserves are accessible from Scott Road. The trailhead for



Veronica Geddes Bowen Preserve is

on Angell Road. The locations are marked with signage. When hiking at any of the preserves, please stay on the trails in order to protect the natural heritage of the properties.

LAND ACQUISITIONS

Pending 5.8 acre acquisition on Lippitt Pond



The Land Trust has acquired 13.5 acres at Kennedy Court near the Blackstone River. The site is named the Menard Preserve after the family that donated the property.

Stewardship Grants - \$2,500.

Legislative Grants from Ackerman and Pearson

For the fourth year we have received state grants from Senator Ryan Pearson and Representative Mia Ackerman. All these funds have been very useful for our property stewardship programs. This year we are using



some funds to upgrade old property signs and installing signs on recently acquired properties. We are using some of the grant



funds for stone and gravel materials for trailhead parking. We continue to improve our passive recreation offerings for all our citizens.

3rd Annual Land Trust Days

Saturday, AUGUST 22, 2015

Celebrate with the Land Trust!

Save the Date! Come celebrate the 2015 Land Trust Days with the CLT. Join us at the High Rock Preserve Outdoor Educational Center on Scott Road for outdoor oriented family fun. Tentatively scheduled to begin at 9 am, CLT will host an hour-long nature walk along with a craft activity targeted for children under 13. Participants will be guided on an easy hike through the Blue Bird Trail and use their observation skills to locate items in our natural environment. There will be opportunities to observe birds so bring your binoculars if you like!



Stay tuned for news on a presentation for adults. Check the CLT website later this summer for more details on both events.

The CLT is a member of the RI Land Trust Council which coordinates the RI Land Trust Days program statewide. The purpose is to raise awareness about the important role land trusts play in their communities.

9th Annual Wine Tasting

Friday,

November 13, 2015



LAND LEGACY SOCIETY DONORS 2014-2015

*Funding for three properties***

With Gratitude and Appreciation to all our Legacy Donors

\$5,000

In Memory of
Grant H. Gray

\$3,000

Arthur and Michele Dunn

\$500

Donna and Glenn Bruno
Cumberland Communitites
Sharon Mullane & Bryan Jaeger
Michelle Lally
Debra and Charles Mitchell
Joe and Rachel Pailthorpe
Pawtucket Credit Union
Randy and Mary Tuomisto

\$250-499

Michael and Barbara Boday
Sue and David Bundy
Michael and Penelope Dvorin
Rafael Gracia
Gary and Eileen Gray
Debra and Charlie Mitchell
John and Judith Turpin
Stephen and Lynn Vaudry
Frank & Mary Wojciechowski
F W Environmental Services

\$100-249

Anonymous (1)
Lauren and Edward Brissette
Claire and David Chenevert
Thomas and Lois Conboy
Franklyn Cook
Elaine and Louis Emery
David and Mary Gumbley
Michael and Sharon Joyal

100 -249 continued

Joseph and Patricia Dias
Wendell and Gail Harris
Albert Kandarian
William Lacivita
Roger Lavallee
David and Cathleen Laverty
Joseph and Nancy Mazza
John and Jennifer McCoy
John and Joan Monaghan
Matthew Putnam
Lynne Anderson Ramos
and Dante Ramos
Neil and Debra Rodin
Charles Winter
Joanne Speroni-Woody and
Michael Woody
Pauline Turenne
Sally and James Terry
Nancy Wegimont
Thomas & Carol Ward

\$50-99

William and Helen Austin
Marcel and Sharon Beausoloil
Anthony and Lauralyn Cannistra
Robert and Nancy Chaput
Michael Delponte
Katherine and David Dickinson
Dale and Phyllis Dobbins
Timothy and Deborah Draper
Craig and Linda Dwyer
William and Jennifer George
Edwin Hayslip, Jr.
George Hasapidis
Elaine Hill
Gerry and Valiere Kaveny

\$50-99 continued

Sheila Koback
David and Cathleen Laverty
Robert and Claire O'connor
Rebecca Randall & Wm. Nakshian
Alfred and Judith Thibodeau
Donna & Michael Scalzi, III
CH and MG Winter

Under \$50

William and Helen Austin
Theona Beauchemin
Christa Beauregard
Michael and Eleanor Bonner
Alan Brodd
George and Claire Dominov
Anna and Stephen Hultquist
Robert and Virginia Jones
Herbert and Barbara Michel
Stephen and Joyce Mooney
Jason Mundy
Elaine and Louis Pastore
Patrick Ryan and Brenda Visicone
Robert and Paula Thibodeau
Ronald and Patricia Treanor
Maria Viens
Scott Welton
Selden Whitcomb
Robert and Ann Williams
James Wright

FUNDING SUMMARY

Total cost	\$78,000
Grants	\$48,750
CLT Members	\$29,250

*****Three properties: Menard Preserve 13.5 acres completed,
pending: Shekarchi Preserve 17.4 acres, and
Conklin Preserve 5.8 acres (37 acres)***

Our young stewards

Improvements at the Bland Preserve were the focus of a Boy Scout Eagle Project carried out by Ryan Laverty of Troop 1 Diamond Hill in November 2014. Under his direction, new trail markers were installed, a map box was constructed, trails were mapped and trail maintenance was completed. As pictured above, Ryan (holding the clipboard) had help from over 20 other troop members and their parents. On hand for the project was CLT Board member Sue Bundy (kneeling). Thank you Ryan!



Welcome New Members

Thomas and Lois Conboy	Matt Putnam
Michael and Penelope Dvorin	Scott Partington
Gary and Eileen Gray	Elaine and Louis Pastore
Michelle Lally	Pawtucket Credit Union
Arthur and Susan Lambi	Nancy and Paul Primiano
Lockey and Pierce	Dave and Dulce Serpa
Scott and Todd Menard	Alfred and Judith Thibodeau
Steve and Joyce Mooney	Patrick Ryan and Brenda Visicone
William and Regina Murray	
Louis and Elaine Pastore	

Beavers flood our trail.

Since the fall of 2013 Beavers have established themselves on the Nate Whipple Highway Preserve thus flooding the trail. (Feb. 2015 on frozen pond)



Our trails stewards are exploring solutions to this problem including trail alternatives. We are in the process of consulting with an expert on Beaver dam solutions. This will not be a quick fix, therefore we will be posting periodic updates on our website "News" tab.

Board Members

(Pictures posted on Website)

Randy Tuomisto, President

Mike Boday, Vice President

Sue Bundy, Secretary

Joe Pailthorpe, Treasurer

Alice Clemente

Debbie Mitchell

John Faile

Kevin Grady

Mike Plasse

Frank Matta

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