



BARRINGTON LAND CONSERVATION TRUST

PRESERVE. ADVOCATE. EDUCATE. ENGAGE.

Spring 2015 • Volume 24, Issue 1

THE NEXT 25 YEARS!

Happy 36th Birthday Barrington Land Conservation Trust. On March 26, 1979 the Barrington Land Conservation Trust was formed. It's been an incredible 35 years. So, where do we go from here?

Open space acquisition and protection is still our priority. We also want to ensure that the town's existing open spaces and protected areas are properly cared for and, whenever possible, open to the public.

A Fresh New Start.

With the help of Barrington resident and graphic designer Michelle Phaneuf, we are launching our new branded look with this issue of our newsletter. Going forward, you will see our new, brightly colored symbol on all of our correspondence, emails, trail signs, advertising and website. Our beautiful, traditional mark, speaks to the preservation of land through a multi-leaf motif. We're excited about the color and how it will stand out no matter the season at our many different properties throughout town.

We have also modified our mission statement to reflect the following principals:

PRESERVE. Acquisition and Stewardship of Our Valuable Resources.

We see that respect for nature continues to be threatened. Our local land, water and wildlife needs the next generation of caretakers.

ADVOCATE. Get Better At What We Do.

For the past 35 years, the BLCT has worked quietly, but effectively to serve the community, however many are still not aware of all that we do and offer

to the public. An important goal for our future is to be accredited, which will open new opportunities for support from other land trust organizations, as well as new revenue to support our on-going work.

EDUCATE. Build Upon Youth Involvement Through Adult Programs.

The BLCT consistently offers a variety of programs for kids, students, and adults in our community. Our goal is to look for new and unique ways to educate our community about the valuable resources found right here in Barrington.

ENGAGE. Connect Community With Nature.

Barrington has very unique biodiversity of land, sea, and air. However, many of our residents are not aware of all that is available to them in their own backyard. The BLCT oversees more than 250 acres of protected land for our community to enjoy. We have begun work on a more robust community outreach program to engage residents with our properties, which will include an updated website complete with trail maps for some of our key properties.

SPOTLIGHT ON THE DESIGNER

Michelle Phaneuf Design was founded in 2002 specializing in identity development, and since then Michelle has worked with many clients around the country to deliver memorable landmarks and identity packages. Her work has been featured in such publications as, *American Corporate Identity*, *Bar and Restaurant Logos*, and *Graphis*.

WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST LAND STEWARD



BLCT is pleased to welcome Marcus Paiva as its newest land steward. Land stewards oversee the upkeep of a specific protected property.

Marcus is a lifelong Barrington resident and active in the outdoors. He manages and advocates on behalf of Mussachuck Creek. Marcus is involved with the diamondback terrapin project, Eagle Scout projects, the Town Trails Team and he's first alternate on the Parks and Recreation Commission.

If you are interested in becoming a land steward, joining our board of directors or other committee please e-mail Lynne Barry Dolan at lbd@blishcavlaw.com. The BLCT welcomes help with nature outings, educational programs, marketing, outreach and many other skills.

URI VISITS NOCKUM HILL

A University of Rhode Island class of graduate and senior environmental science majors visited Nockum Hill on Hundred Acre Cove on April 15. The students, led by professor Nancy E. Karraker, studied periwinkles and a parasite they carry in order



to estimate the number of diamondback terrapins in the area. The land trust has been performing an annual study of the threatened terrapins at the Rayner Refuge at Nockum Hill since 1990.

The Rayner Refuge is the only managed and established turtle nesting ground for the diamondback terrapin in Rhode Island. The diamondback terrapin is listed as state endangered and protected.

The refuge is open to the public most of the year. For more information about diamondback terrapins and how to see them at the refuge e-mail Charlotte Sornborger at c_sornborger@hotmail.com

SHAW'S TO SUPPORT THE BLCT

Forgot to bring your reusable shopping bag to Shaw's grocery store? Well, you can feel good about purchasing your paper bags. Beginning in June, Shaw's will be charging a dime for every bag purchased. A few pennies of that dime will be donated to the Barrington Land Conservation Trust and put to good use caring for our natural resources.

CONGRATULATIONS TO HELEN TJADER



Former BLCT board member and past-president Helen Tjader was the recipient of the prestigious Peter B. Merritt Award for Conservation at the annual Land & Water Conservation Summit held at the University of Rhode Island on March 14.

The award recognizes individuals making outstanding contributions to their communities. Among

her many accomplishments with conservation and environmental causes, Helen served as BLCT president for five years and as president of the town Conservation Commission. She was a leader with the Rhode Island Chapter of the Sierra Club and a planner of several statewide environmental programs.

Helen currently runs the Barrington Town Trails Team, overseeing events and year-round maintenance of local walking trails. She is an expert on local Indian history. One of her current initiatives is establishing a Sowams National Heritage District made up of a wooded corridor that preserves the legacy of the Pokanoket Tribe in Rhode Island and Massachusetts

Helen's many accomplishments with the land trust include the acquisition of Sowams Woods, a 12-acre property that had special significance to the Pokanoket Tribe. The purchase of the property by the land trust took a great deal of coordination of finding federal, state, town and private sources.

Sowams Woods is located on Washington Road and is open to the public year round.

THANK YOU

Thank you to Ned Barton for donating a motion camera for the Terrapin Population Study. The camera will identify nighttime predators that feed on diamondback terrapin eggs at the Rayner Wildlife Refuge.

ANNUAL MEETING JUNE 8, 2015

St. Luke's School teacher Doreen Schiff and her students will present their study of Annawamscutt Creek. The business portion of the meeting begins at 7 p.m. in the Barrington Library Auditorium.

The presentation starts at 7:30.

EVENTS

TOWN-WIDE 'EARTH DAY' LITTER CLEANUP MAY 17 • 1 PM - 4PM

Join forces with the Barrington Conservation Commission and the Town Trails Team to give our special places and parks a spring litter cleanup. Meet in front of Town Hall to receive your assignment.

PURPLE MARTIN OUTING JUNE 27 • 1 PM

Barrington has the largest population of purple martin in New England. Join us for a guided tour of purple martin habitat by bird expert Raymond Marr Jr. The event will be held at the PIC-WIL Nature Preserve on Washington Road.

LAND TRUST DAYS AUGUST 8 – OCTOBER 4

Be on the lookout for dozens of land trust outings and events across Rhode Island. BLCT will host a kayak tour of Hundred Acre Cove on or around Labor Day weekend. Go to www.rilandtrusts.org for more information.

MEMBERSHIP

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip Code _____

Email _____

Membership Categories:

- Life Member \$1,000 I'd like to volunteer
- Benefactor \$500
- Conservator \$250 I'd like information
- Patron \$100 on donating stock
- Sponsor \$50
- Family/Friend \$35
- Other Amount \$ _____

Check Payable To: **Barrington Land Conservation Trust**

Mail To: **PO Box 324, Barrington, RI 02806-0324**

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