



BARRINGTON LAND CONSERVATION TRUST

• ESTABLISHED 1979 •

PRESERVE. ADVOCATE. EDUCATE. ENGAGE.

*Spring 2016 * Volume 25, Issue 1*

Land Trust and Garden Club to Manage Nature Preserve

Annual Meeting June 7



BLCT and Barrington Garden Club agreed to co-manage the Osamequin Nature Preserve and Bird Sanctuary. The popular 42-acre park has two miles of easy trail hiking along Hundred Acre Cove.

The Town Council must affirm the agreement but the two groups are already clearing trails and repairing signs for spring. New trail maps are on the way, too.

The Osamequin Nature Preserve is located on Route 114 and is open all year.

The BLCT is thrilled to welcome former Land Trust president and nature expert Helen Tjader as the main speaker at our annual meeting on Tuesday, June 7 in the Senior Center (in the basement of the public library) at 7 p.m.

Helen will present 'Sowams - A Landscape Alive': a virtual journey through Sowams from the past to the present to rediscover the land under our feet. Share your favorite places for the proposed Sowams National Heritage Area.



www.BLCT.org



Visit the Barrington Land
Conservation Trust on Facebook





Wildlife photographer Butch Lombardi and past BLCT president Sandra Wyatt organized the construction and installation of a new osprey pole and nest in Allin's Cove. The previous nest blew over in a wind storm. Butch and Sandra were joined in their effort by Gary DesLaurier, Alan Bradbury, Eric Young, Peter Burke, Mike Gerhardt, Ed Schottland, Finn Brudevold and Tim Faulkner.

Butch and volunteers maintain several osprey nests in Barrington and Warren.

A Night To Remember!

The Barrington Land Conservation Trust would like to extend a big thank you to all who attended and supported Wine on the Harvest Moon! Held this past Fall on the grounds of St. Andrew's School, more than 100 guests celebrated Barrington's treasured, natural wonders.

Those in attendance enjoyed a specially prepared wine-tasting presented by Grapes & Grains Fine Wines & Spirits set to live music by Kyle Nicholas against the backdrop of one of nature's rarest shows – a full lunar eclipse. The night sky was crystal clear, and we were fortunate to be guided in our moon gazing by local astronomers Pete Peterson, Ian Dell'antonio and their staff.

Through ticket sales, donations and corporate sponsors, the BLCT raised \$8500. We would like to extend a special thank you to the following corporate sponsors and our MC, Michelle Muscatello of Eyewitness News 12, who helped make our 35th anniversary celebration such a success!

St. Andrew's School
Jaffe Orthodontics

Grapes & Grains
Capital Building and Design
Daisy Diggins
Hollies On The Avenue
East Bay Newspapers
Bluewater Bar & Grill
Pizzico Ristorante
Whole Foods



Special thanks to Board member Maureen Johnson for organizing the event!!

Donation of Stock to BLCT

Do you wish to make a larger gift to the BLCT? Are you fortunate enough to own some highly appreciated stock? Do you want to realize your gain on the stock, but not want to pay capital gains taxes on the appreciation? By making a gift of stock held longer than one year to a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization like the BLCT, you can completely avoid paying capital gains tax on the donated stock. In addition, you can receive an income tax deduction for the market value of the stock on the date of transfer, if you itemize on Schedule A. The market value is calculated using the average of the high and low stock price on the transfer date, per IRS rules.

For example, using big round numbers, assume you donated shares of stock worth \$1000. The BLCT can sell those shares immediately and have \$1000. For that donation, you get a \$1000 tax deduction on your Schedule A. Nothing special yet. Here is where the tax advantage comes in:

Say you paid \$200 for those shares of stock and the stock did very well, quintupling in value. You have owned those shares for over 1 year. As a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization, BLCT can sell those shares immediately for \$1000 and no one needs to pay any tax on the \$800 of capital gains. For that donation, you still get a \$1000 tax deduction on your Schedule A, even though you paid only \$200 for those stock shares.

If you decided to sell those same shares in order to send BLCT a cash donation, it would work out differently. You would sell the shares for \$1000, but would owe taxes on the \$800 of long-term capital gains. There would be federal and state capital gains taxes and possibly Alternative Minimum Tax payments. It's hard to estimate, but you would probably pay between \$160 and \$230 in taxes on the \$800 capital gains. If you were only donating your net on the sale (after taxes), you would only donate \$770 to \$840, which would also be the deduction you would get on Schedule A.

As you see, the details and calculations of tax benefits can be messy, but the concept is pretty straightforward. If you just donate the stock, you know you are getting a tax benefit and have no need to actually calculate how much that benefit is.

To initiate a stock donation, please contact Patti Cerilli (treasurer@blct.org) at BLCT to get the required up-to-date account information. Note that stock transfers are anonymous and BLCT will not know the source of donated stock unless you tell us how many shares of what stock is being transferred. BLCT needs to know this information in order to send you the receipt letter you will need for your tax documentation.

This article is for information only and does not constitute tax or legal advice. Please discuss the details and possible advantages with your own tax advisor.

Thank You!

Shaw's grocery store for donating \$500 from the sales of reusable checkout bags.

Sally and Chuck Carpenter for a donation marking their 50th anniversary.

A donation in celebration of the marriage of Bailey O'Donnell and Tony Hatala from Jane and Kenneth Sacks.



Trail Helpers Needed

We are currently recruiting volunteers for our “Tuesday Trails Team” to work on various properties managed by BLCT. Projects include identifying and removing invasive plants, trail construction and maintenance, installing signage, and litter removal.

This is an opportunity to be outdoors, learn something about local habitats and best practices in managing these diverse properties. It’s also a chance to mingle with like-minded members of the community. All you need are good shoes, work gloves, a love of the outdoors and 2-3 hours of your time. Our “Tuesday Trails Team” kicks-off April 12th and will gather monthly on the first Tuesday of the month throughout the year weather permitting. If you are interested please email Victor Lerish at volunteers@blct.org.

New Board Member Victor Lerish

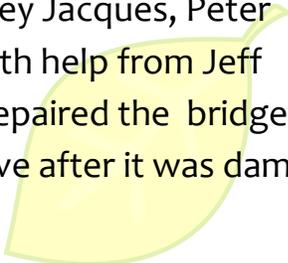


Please welcome Victor Lerish to the BLCT Board of Directors. You may know Victor from his 34 years as a pediatrician at Barrington Pediatric Associates. Victor has lived in Barrington since 1979. He and his wife Dr. Joanne Futransky have two grown children and a granddaughter. Victor is already making a difference with the land trust by managing the new “Tuesday Trails Team.” Visit www.blct.org or email volunteers@blct.org for information. Welcome Victor!



BRIDGE REPAIRED

BLCT board members Rodney Jacques, Peter Burke and Ed Schottland with help from Jeff Brousseau and Don Miller repaired the bridge at the Johannis Nature Preserve after it was damaged by higher tides.



TRIBUTE TO CATHERINE PICERELLI

In early December Catherine Picerelli passed away; she lived well into her 90s. Catherine had a special love for the land, now called PIC-WIL Nature Preserve. It was given to her father, Peter Picerelli, by owners Clifford and Alice Wilson. Peter ran the Deep Rock Bottling Company located on the Wilsons' land on Washington Road for many years. Older residents can remember the grape and orange Tru-Ade, and 7-Up, produced with water from artesian wells on the property. For many years Catherine kept the books for the business.

In 1986 Catherine gave the 17.5 acre property to The Nature Conservancy. They in turn transferred it to the Barrington Land Conservation Trust. The acquisition was celebrated with an outdoor ceremony attended by dozens of conservation leaders from both the town and the state. For safekeeping, a conservation easement on the land was given to the Audubon Society of Rhode Island; the BLCT often asks for management advice from them.

Catherine always kept an eagle eye on the property. She will be long remembered for her dedication to land preservation for the purposes of conservation, education and scenic beauty.

TRIBUTE TO BOB JOHANNIS

Robert Edward Johannis lived on his family's farm on Sowams Road since 1942 where he moved at the age of 10. He grew up, married his wife Celeste and raised his family of eight children on the farm. Bob's father purchased the farm of 28 acres with an unlivable house and barn for \$194 per acre. Another 16 acres were purchased 10 years later from Narragansett Electric for about \$10,000. In all, the farm consisted of 44 acres on both sides of Sowams Road.

In 1989, the Barrington Land Conservation Trust purchased 28 acres with state and town open-space bonds, plus \$60,000 raised by the BLCT, and the cooperation of the Johannis family. The land along the Palmer River became the Johannis Farm Wildlife Preserve. The Preserve is a diverse habitat composed of woodland, salt marsh, and open pasture, which supports equally diverse plant and wildlife.

Bob recalled that the Palmer River had a channel for boats. It was originally dug by a brick works on the site, that transported its bricks on barges to Warren. He also recalled that the estuaries were deep enough for a diving board used for swimming in the summers. The Palmer River fed his family more than once and was filled with crabs, clams, oysters, mussels and eels and white perch in the spring. In the roots of pine trees was a good place to find quahogs.

The Land Trust sincerely thanks Bob for sharing his experiences growing up and working the land along the Palmer River.

ADOPT A TURTLE

How can you help the efforts of the Barrington Land Conservation Trust? Consider adopting a turtle. Your donation will support the preservation and ongoing research of the endangered Diamondback Terrapins that nest at the Doug Rayner Wildlife Refuge at Nockum Hill.

Over the past 25 years, under the guidance of Charlotte Sornborger, one of the founding members of the BLCT, the Land Trust has researched and managed the nesting grounds of the Diamondback Terrapins. Managing the land is a big job, requiring many volunteers and much needed financial support.

This year, we launched the Charlotte Sornborger Adopt-A-Turtle program to ensure that this important work continues. For \$100 you can adopt your very own turtle. Your adoption is good for one year. You will receive an information packet on your turtle, complete with a picture and a detailed bio of your turtle. You can also schedule a private tour of Nockum Hill with one of our land trust members. We are happy to share that twenty five turtles have been adopted so far. Please consider adopting your turtle today! (Simply send your contact information to info@blct.org.)

MEMBERSHIP

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip Code _____

Email _____

Membership categories:

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

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

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

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Tim Faulkner PRESIDENT

Peter Burke VICE PRESIDENT

Lynne Barry Dolan SECRETARY/NOMINATIONS

Patti Cerilli TREASURER/FINANCE

Norm Dudziak AT LARGE

Melissa Horne ACQUISITIONS & PLANNING

Rodney Jacques AT LARGE

Maureen Johnson DEVELOPMENT

Victor Lerish AT LARGE

Amy O'Donnell AT LARGE

Beth Rondeau RECORDING SECRETARY/MEMBERSHIP

Ed Schottland AT LARGE

Charlotte Sornborger AT LARGE

Blakely Szosz AT LARGE

www.BLCT.org



Visit the Barrington Land
Conservation Trust on Facebook



BARRINGTON LAND
CONSERVATION TRUST

• ESTABLISHED 1979 •

PO BOX 324, BARRINGTON, RI 02806

NONPROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
BARRINGTON, RI
PERMIT NO. 35

CURRENT RESIDENT OR