

BARRINGTON LAND CONSERVATION TRUST



Image is the design of a \$1 gold coin commemorating the peace treaty between Plymouth Colony and the Wampanoag Tribe in March 1621.

SOWAMS NATIONAL HERITAGE DISTRICT/AREA

It can be argued that Sowams is the pivotal place of cultural exchange between indigenous people and colonizing settlers in North America. Few people realize that there was a treaty between the Pokanoket Tribe and the Puritans established on March 21, 1621. This peace treaty stood for over 50 years before it was broken during the conflict known as King Phillip's War in 1675. The initiation and duration of the peace is unique among the colonial patterns of interaction across the New World. The human toll of the eventual conflict was the costliest to its respective populations. The impact of the outcome of this clash of cultures continues to this day.

National recognition is given around this time each year to Plymouth and the settlement struggles there. But our modern traditions of a national Thanksgiving celebration truly arose from the traditions of the people of Sowams. Fully appreciating all the layers of history of Sowams, past to present, is invaluable to us individually, to our communities and to our country. Communicating and passing on this understanding is the only means to protect this place and perpetuate its values for future generations.

The National Heritage Area program of the National Park Service (NPS) could potentially provide this framework, <http://www.nps.gov/heritageareas/>. There are currently 49 designated Areas across the country. The National Park Service operates in partnership with local communities, not owning the land directly but acting in an advisory role. Nevertheless, an Area, once designated by Congress, can bring additional benefits of this innovative collaboration. A 2013 study of the National Heritage Area program revealed that nationally, the Areas had a projected economic benefit of over \$12.9 billion annually, supporting over 148,000 jobs and federal tax revenues of \$1.2 billion. The 21 Areas of the Northeast Region, support nearly 67,000 jobs and generate over \$600 million of state and local tax revenue.

Every Heritage Area must tell a unique part of our nation's story. Key elements of the landscape must have natural, cultural, historic and scenic resources. Recreation resources are also a desired element. While each National Heritage Areas must be designated by Congress, one of the first steps would be to conduct a feasibility study. In some cases a local area, state or county based, is established first.

The place we live is an essential part of who we are as people. Investigating this opportunity for establishing a permanent National Heritage Area, and alternates, would bring us together across towns for a meaningful review and updated perspective of the role of Sowams in our nation's history in advance of the 400th anniversary of the peace treaty.

Sign up for information and meeting notification by providing your name and email to Helen Tjader, helen@acornnpsolutions.com Interested in hosting a presentation or informational meeting, call Helen at 401-480-8329.



Visit the Barrington Land Conservation Trust online at www.BLCT.org and on Facebook



Congratulations Charlotte Sornborger! 2014 Rhode Island Distinguished Naturalist Award

Charlotte will be recognized and applauded by the RI Natural History Survey for her longstanding contributions to land and wildlife conservation at a dinner on Friday, November 7th. As the 2014 recipient Charlotte stands out among her colleagues for excellence in:

- making significant contributions in the advancement of scientific knowledge of Rhode Island's organisms, geology, and ecosystems as evidenced by published books, scientific papers, and monographs;
- being recognized as an outstanding teacher and educator to students and the public on the form, functions, and ecological significance of Rhode Island's biota and natural systems; making significant contributions to enhanced public awareness of the importance of understanding the natural history of Rhode Island's ecosystems.

Over the years Charlotte has worn many hats. Her most long standing though, is her role as principal investigator (since 1990) for the Nockum Hill Terrapin Population Study! Visit <http://scienceandnatureforapie.com/turtles-from-the-dust-endangered-terrapins-in-rhode-island/> to read more about that immensely successful, long standing project. For more information on the November 7th event, please visit www.rinhs.org.

Charlotte's response upon finding out about the award: ***"I am honored to join the ranks of two of my mentors – Doug Rayner and my grandfather, Harold Gibbs (posthumously)."***



Meet Barri !

The endangered Northern Diamondback Terrapin was named the official animal of Barrington by order of the Town Council in 1993 through the efforts of Kate McCalmont. The BLCT's float in the Memorial Day Parade has been named Barri, name submission by Bethany Baker, the official winner of the Turtle Naming Contest. Thank you Bethany!

Float Photos Courtesy of Sean Maiorano

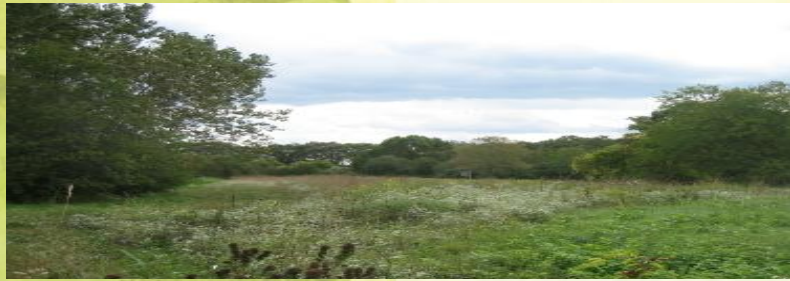


MEET OUR FLOAT ARTIST – Lisa Abbatomarco

Lisa is an interdisciplinary Visual and Performing Artist whose modest studio space is often bursting at the seams with painting, puppetry, textiles, sculpture, experimental theater, installation and sound art. Fueled by improvisation, mood and a multitude of materials, she transforms the recycled and discarded into forms both familiar and beautiful. She has created original theatre productions as well as toured with renowned puppet/mask theatres Arm of the Sea (NY) and in the Heart of the Beast (MN). This year she was awarded an apprenticeship with the Institute for Community Research to develop her most recent work in progress – a revival of the Warren pageant slated for Fall 2014. As an arts educator, she has taught extensively for IS183 Art School (MA) and Tang Teaching Museum (NY). Using simple, recycled materials, she introduces youth to new concepts in art through reinvention, resourcefulness and play. Throughout her 20+ year career, her dedication to social and environmental causes and community has created the unifying thread for her cornucopia of activity. It was no surprise that she was charmed by the BLCT to build our Terrapin Turtle float. Lisa's newest body of work is the next incarnation of her homage to shape, form, texture, and movement. These contemplative constructions are a melding of industrial felt, vellum, plastic bags, paint and hardware and have been featured as a part of ARTNight Bristol/Warren. Lisa holds a BFA from the School of Art Institute in Chicago, directs and choreographs the Urban Pond Procession in Providence and sings as Ramblin' Red in her cowboy band. Classes, workshops, performance, community programs are available for all ages. Find her on Facebook or book her by calling 914-388-4328 or skyycake@yahoo.com.

Thank you to the Barrington DPW!!!

Thank you Alan Corvi and your incredibly supportive team at the Barrington Department of Public Works. We sincerely appreciate the mowing of Rayner Refuge at Nockum Hill this fall. Frank did an excellent job – and the refuge looks beautiful. He cut in close around the trees and bird boxes, and this saves Pete McCalmont, the refuge steward, a lot of extra work. He clearly took an interest in doing a good job and the BLCT appreciates that. The annual mowing by the DPW is critical to maintaining the meadows at the refuge and we know well that it requires a big effort and commitment by the DPW to perform this job every year. It is truly a wonderful refuge and enjoyed by hundreds of people each year. Thank you for a job well done!!!



A NOTE OF THANKS:

Thank you Pete McCalmont, Bob Caron and Charlie Brown for your work this fall at Rayner Refuge. Without Pete (and the Barrington DPW), there would be no terrapin habitat or mowed trails at Rayner Refuge. In October Pete cleared a lot of brush and saplings along the sandpit at the Point. Charlie Brown put in significant time with his chain saw cutting stumps and clearing a downed tree in the sandpit. They will be returning to the refuge in November to girdle some trees and drop a few more. There will be a lot more sunlight next year for great terrapin nesting and hatching!

Thank you Jane Blount!

Jane Blount has been a steadfast volunteer on the Membership Committee for many years now. She writes all of the thank you notes for charitable contributions made to the BLCT for amounts less than \$250. (The Co-Presidents write personal thank you notes for all contributions over \$250). Jane handles membership renewals, annual appeal donations as well as memorial contributions. All of us in the BLCT truly value and appreciate her significant contribution to our organization and thank her for her valuable time and generous support!

Barrington Trails Team Volunteers 2014

Thanks to all of our **Trails Team** volunteers for your good work at Veterans Memorial Park, Osamequin Nature Preserve, Vitullo Farm and more: **Marcus Paiva, Dan Horne, Rich McKay, Keith Gonsalves, John Robichaux, Greg and Owen Voigt, Kathy Sullivan, Ben Flynn, Connor O'Neal, Jean Santanelli, Haley Wohlever, Kim Jacobs, Bonnie Grassie Hughes, Leslie Weeden, Cynthia Fuller, Elvy Monroy and Helen Tjader.**

Over 100 hours of volunteer work at **Andreozzi Nature Preserve** revived its trail connection to the bike path and addressed some of the invasive plants and landscape dumping. A hearty thanks goes to Eagle Scout, **Eric Goodale**, and **Troop 6** and Senior Project Student, **Matt Barry**. Inspired by his project work, Matt is now pursuing a career in forestry.

Eagle Scout, **Harry Lico**, and **Troop 6**, added bat boxes to the western side of Veterans Memorial Park along Brickyard Pond. He will continue to maintain the boxes to insure they are ready for use each summer. (We aim to print the pictures from this endeavor as well as an article about bats in a future newsletter.)

The Barrington Trails Team is an informal partnership of the Land Trust and the Town of Barrington along with other community based groups such as the Bayside YMCA and Barrington Garden Club whose volunteers work on stewardship trail and maintenance projects on both Land Trust and Town properties. Volunteers work at their own pace and ability level to keep our local open spaces looking their best. Projects range from litter cleanup to trail maintenance to invasive plant management. No experience required! We have several projects coming up. Projects are also announced via email and on the Land Trust's Facebook page. To join in the fun, call or email Helen Tjader, 401-480-8329 and helen@acornnpsolutions.com

Sunday, Nov 2, 1 to 4 PM Pic-Wil Nature Preserve - Trail Maintenance & Drive Sweep - Park on Tallwood
Tuesday, Nov 4 (Election Day), 10 AM - Noon Osamequin Nature Preserve '2nd Bird' - Trail Maintenance, Litter Pickup and Invasive Plant Control - park at 2nd Bird

Sunday, Nov 9, 1 to 4 PM Sowams Nature Preserve - Invasive Plant Control along Washington Road- Park on Tallwood

Tuesday, Nov 11 (Veterans Day), 10 AM - Noon - Trail Maintenance, Signage, Litter Pickup - Park in eastern side parking area or Town/Y parking lot

Sunday, Nov 16, 1 to 4 PM - Rain date for any or previous projects

Clip-out Membership Form

Make Check Payable To:
Barrington Land Conservation Trust
Mail To: PO Box 324, Barrington, RI 02806-0324

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____
Zip: _____
Email: _____
Phone: _____

Membership Categories

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

Board of Directors

Ginger Brown, Co-President
Ed Schottland, Co-President
Tim Faulkner, Vice President
Lynne Barry Dolan, Secretary, Nominations
Patti Cerilli, Treasurer, Finance
Peter Burke, Stewardship
Bleu Grijalva, at large
Melissa Horne, Acquisitions & Planning
Rodney Jacques, at large
Maureen Johnson, Development
Amy O'Donnell, at large
Beth Rondeau, Recording Secretary, Membership
Jackie Senich, Education
Charlotte Sornborger, at large
Blakely Szosz, at large

Barrington Land Conservation Trust
PO Box 324, Barrington, RI 02806

NONPROFIT ORG

U.S. POSTAGE
PAIDBARRINGTON, RI
PERMIT NO. 35