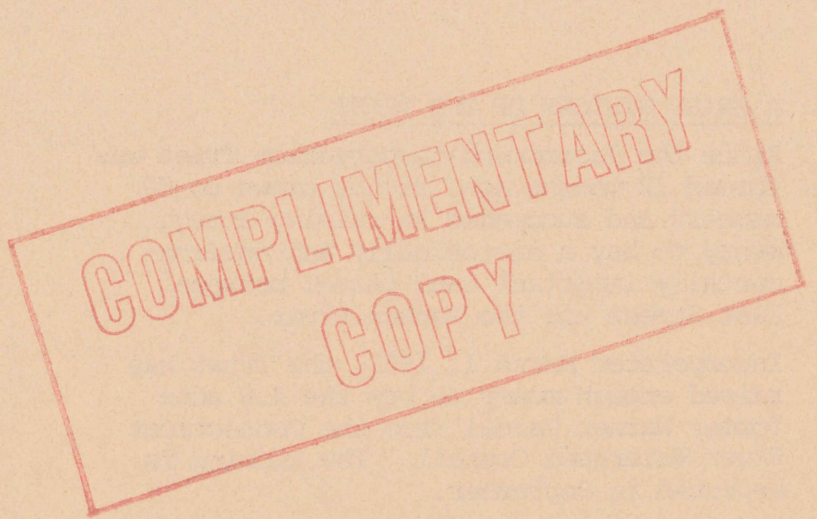


NEWSLETTER



PASCOMMUCK
CONSERVATION
TRUST, INC.

P. O. Box 806
EASTHAMPTON, MA
01027



VOLUME I NO. I AUTUMN, 1983

MESSAGE FROM TRUST PRESIDENT DAVID KENNEDY

"It is a pleasure to present the first quarterly edition of the Pascommuck Conservation Trust newsletter. The purpose of the newsletter is to keep our growing membership and the public informed of the Trust's activities and events.

We are happy to say the Trust has expanded to include 80 members, with representatives from several local civic groups and has provided both the opportunities and the assets to significantly advance the Trust's purposes and goals.

Thanks to many generous individual contributions and a substantial grant from the Frank Stanley Beveridge Foundation, the fiscal goals of the Trust membership drive were recently met. With these funds, the Trust's goal of purchasing five wooded acres of historically valuable land along East Street will be accomplished this fall. We are also asking for your help on Oct. 8 when we will sponsor a bake sale and a work party later in the day.

Additionally, a tag sale is being planned for October 23. We would welcome your participation and encourage you to talk with us at the Easthampton Fall Festival or attend the Board of Directors meetings on Oct. 12 and Nov. 9 at the Taylor Real Estate Agency on Main Street.

We are looking forward to seeing you later this month at the Fall Festival and discussing our fall calendar of events."

David Kennedy
President

THE EASTHAMPTON FALL FESTIVAL

The Trust will be well represented at the upcoming Fall Festival September 17 & 18 at the Easthampton High School.

Saturday & Sunday, members of the Trust will provide boat trips on nearby Nashawannuck Pond. The trips will explore the natural history of the pond and present first hand the problems of advanced weed growth, or eutrophication, that currently exists in the pond. Once a recreational mecca, the pond, due to weakly enforced water pollution control laws over the years and a lack of a strict wetlands preservation policy, may die if immediate measures aren't taken to clean it up.

Like our Trust land, the pond needs to be preserved.

The Trust will also have an informational booth at the high school during the two-day festival to promote awareness of the Trust and to solicit new members.

Board of Directors member William Burgart will offer custom-made color greeting cards of nature scenes for sale at the booth to promote the Trust's work. Burgart, an avid cyclist and mountaineer, has taken photos of the many places he has toured and transformed his unique impressions into vivid multi-color postcards. The postcards will provide the colorful backdrop for the baked foods offered by members at the booth.

Take-along goodies such as brownies and cookies will be sold at the booth to provide nourishment for festival-goers and much needed funds for the Trust coffers.

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE TRUST

Since the Pascommuck Conservation Trust was formed 18 months ago, it has grown to 80 members and succeeded in raising enough money to buy a historically and environmentally important land parcel between East Street and the Manhan River.

Incorporated March 1, 1982, the Trust has raised enough money to buy the 4.8 acre former Warner Parcel from the Connecticut River Watershed Council. The closing is expected in September.

To ensure that the land remain undeveloped and in the public domain, the watershed council bought the industrially zoned land for \$2,000 when it was placed on the open market in the fall of 1981. The council then agreed to transfer the land to the Pascommuck Conservation Trust when it had raised the money.

Besides its value as a natural area and a wildlife habitat, the land was traversed by the original 18th century Springfield to Northampton stage road and the first vehicular bridge over the Manhan River.

The Trust's Board of Directors were elected on November 10, 1982, and drew members from a group studying Easthampton's open space and recreation needs. Its members possess a wide range of professional and educational backgrounds. "This non-profit organization was formed in an effort to promote the restoration, conservation, wise development and use of the natural resources in and around the town of Easthampton," according to the Trust's bylaws, also adopted in November 1982.

A membership drive began in January 1983 with a mailing of informational pamphlets and membership applications. So far, the Trust has raised \$3,200 through membership fees, grants and bank interest for use in current and future projects.

In building community support, Trust directors have appeared on local radio programs and have addressed the Easthampton Farmer's Club. Information about the Trust has been disseminated through newspapers, bulletin boards and posters.

The Trust has also held periodic work parties, concentrating on the East Street frontage adjacent to The Daughters of American Revolution monument. Future parties will attempt to clear paths for

passive use of the entire property.

The annual meeting of the Trust was held on April 25, 1983, 10 days after the Trust received notification it had been officially registered as a tax-exempt, publicly supported organization by the Internal Revenue Service.

In his annual report in April, President David Kennedy said the Trust is expected to grow both in membership and in advancing its purpose during the rest of 1983. He also acknowledged the assistance of the Massachusetts Audubon Society, Patricia Scanlon of the U.S. Soil Conservation Service, Terry Blunt of the Connecticut River Watershed Council and Attorney John J. Moriarty.

TREASURER'S REPORT

INCOME:

MEMBERSHIP DONATIONS	\$2239.00
INTEREST INCOME	3.97
GRANTS	<u>1000.00</u>
TOTAL	\$3242.97

EXPENSES:

	<u>\$1082.97</u>
NET INCOME	<u>\$2160.00</u>

DON'T FORGET!!!

OCTOBER 8 - Work party at the East Street site.

OCTOBER 8 - Bake sale at Big E's Foodland. Please call Lynne Gosselin (527-5869) or Diana Pinkos (527-9456) to make arrangements.

OCTOBER 12 - Board of Directors Meeting at The Taylor Real Estate Office, Main St.

OCTOBER 23 - Tag Sale. Please call David Kennedy (527-3325). Watch the Gazette for location.

NOVEMBER 9 - Board of Directors meeting at The Taylor Real Estate Office, Main St.

NEWSLETTER STAFF:

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Diana Pinkos
Walter Hamilton
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