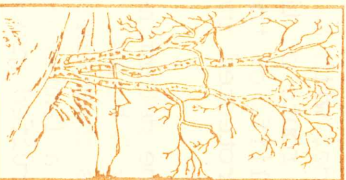


NEWSLETTER



**PASCOMMUCK
CONSERVATION
TRUST, INC.**
P. O. Box 806
EASTHAMPTON, MA
01027

VOL II NO. 2 SUMMER 1984

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I am honored to serve as your President for the next year and will strive to perform the duties of that office with professionalism and diligence.

We are fortunate to have an organization that is in general good health and a state of financial stability. However, we must now begin to expand our membership, so a Membership Committee has been established with a goal of substantially increasing our numbers by next April.

We must also begin to develop a long-range plan for future acquisitions; to provide public access to existing holdings; and to chart a course aimed at achieving our stated purpose of environmental and natural resource conservation and historical preservation. A Land Acquisition and Maintenance Committee has also been established to perform these important tasks.

We must also seek to expand our visibility and subsequently our influence in the area. With that in mind, establishment of an Activities Committee is anticipated to plan and coordinate fund raising efforts, publicity campaigns, participation in community events, speaking engagements, etc.

Above all, we must instill a sense of enthusiasm and belonging in the membership-at-large and encourage their participation in the work of our organization. It is heartening to note that the committees already established are made-up of individuals from the general membership and we will strive to continue this policy.

In closing I invite, indeed I encourage members to attend our monthly directors meetings and to participate with us in shaping the future of the Pascommuck Conservation Trust.

Robert E. Dunbar
President

\$500 MEMORIAL DONATION RECEIVED

The Trust has received a gift of \$500 from Florence Eaton of Clapp St., Easthampton in memory of her mother E. Florence Smith. Miss Eaton made the gift in support of the Trust's efforts and thought the gift a suitable way to express her late mother's appreciation for the town, which she had often visited and remarked of its beauty.

COMPLIMENTARY
COPY

Miss Eaton plans to retire, for the last time, this summer and move from her home of 21 years back to Greenland, NH.

ANNUAL MEETING RE-CAP

The annual meeting held on April 23rd was attended by 30 members who elected two new Directors and re-elected one.

Elected to the nine-member board for three years were; Joyce Neal of Florence, and Stella Wiernasz of Easthampton. Mike Tautznik of Easthampton was re-elected.

Members viewed an informative, as well as enjoyable slide presentation by Mrs. Natalie Strong, a member of the Easthampton Historical Society and Bicentennial Committee. Mrs. Strong outlined the many activities planned for July 1985, including a parade and urged our participation.

The Trust is planning to form a committee to work on a float for the Bicentennial Parade. Volunteers should contact the directors if they are interested in working on this project in any capacity.

The membership also approved a change in the Trust bylaws, which eliminates a requirement that members of the Easthampton Historical and Conservation Commissions be included on the Trust's board of directors.

Directors subsequently elected Trust officers, naming Bob Pinkos, President; Joyce Neal, Vice President; Mike Tautznik, Treasurer; and Chuck Conner, Clerk.

EAST STREET DEED TRANSFERRED

The Pascommuck Conservation Trust, Inc. officially became the owner of a 4.8 acre parcel of conservation land off East Street during a May 13th ceremony marking the dedication of the Old Pascommuck Conservation Area.

About 15 Trust members attended the ceremony where directors accepted the deed to the property from Terry Blunt, Exec. Director for the Connecticut River Watershed Council. The CRWC sold the land to the trust for \$2000.

A handsome wooden sign, built by Trust President, Bob Pinkos, has been erected on the site near the D.A.R. monument. Work parties will be scheduled at the East St. property to clear a pathway from East St to the Manhan River, making it more accessible for foot traffic.

This property is the Trust's first acquisition of environmentally sensitive land. It was also once the site of the original road to Northampton, remnants of which can still be seen.

CANAL WALK

A group of twenty people braved the spring mud and snow patches to walk along the tow-path of one of the few remaining recognizable segments of the New Haven to Northampton Canal. Hikers included Trust members and interested persons from Amherst, South Hadley, Northampton, and the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission.

The Canal, which opened in 1835, was the only viable means of transportation of goods and produce through Easthampton for twenty years until the coming of the railroad. Now most of the 80 mile canal is obliterated, except for scattered segments.

The Easthampton segment passes through a wooded area with white pine, oak, and maple. The area abounds with wild flowers and birds, from late spring through autumn.

At the present time, the property is privately owned, zoned for industry, and is increasingly subject to developmental pressure.

The Easthampton Historical Commission is presently researching this area for its historical significance to the development of Easthampton, and will soon register this property with the Massachusetts Historical Commission as an historic site.

Bill Carroll

SPRING BAKE SALE

Despite the "Flood of '84" a bake sale was held June 2 at Big E's Foodland raising \$190.

Although the weather was dreary and cold, Trust members and friends eagerly donated many baked goods to ensure a successful bake sale.

Special thanks to Mr. Ed Corbiel for his support and cooperation and "bottomless" pot of HOT coffee. Also, a thank you to the First Congregational Church for the use of their tables.

A fall bake sale is being planned--start digging through your favorite recipes now. All donations will be gratefully accepted.

COMMITTEE SEEKS NEW MEMBERS

The Trust Membership Committee, formed in May, has embarked on an effort to increase current membership of 101 to 300 individuals, businesses, and industries before the end of the year.

Chairman, Chuck Hein, and members Marge Cornwall, Dick Lavelle and Chuck Conner have been sending printed material about the Trust to people who took the Nashawannuck Pond tour during last year's Fall Festival.

All Trust members are encouraged to suggest membership to their friends, neighbors and relatives in an effort to increase membership.

The Trust will also be contacting those members whose memberships expire in June and September, asking them to renew for a one-year period. Members will now be contacted three months prior to the expiration date of their membership.

JOINT DAY HIKE - P.C.T.I./A.M.C.

On Saturday, June 9th, eleven courageous people met in the intense heat at the Log Cabin parking lot for a joint hike of the Pascommuck Trust and the Appalachian Mountain Club. A decision was made, with a unanimous vote, to change the route of the hike from the open, exposed cliffs of the Metacomet Trail to the more protected and cooler trails around Bray Lake.

With temperatures over 100° the determined hikers SLOWLY trekked for over 3 hours, covering approximately 5 miles observing scenery and wildlife. Seeing a family of Canadian Geese, two nests of ruffed grouse, and two vultures all in their natural habitat, was their reward for withstanding the "elements of Mother Nature".

Following the hike a pot-luck supper was enjoyed by all at the Burgart-Bond residence. The day's pleasures led to tentative plans for a Fall hike.

Pat Bond & Bill Burgart

TREASURER'S REPORT

Beginning Balance	\$4488.85
Income:	
Memberships	370.00
Projects	247.75
Other	618.15
	<u>1235.90</u>

Expenses: 97.57

Net Income (Loss) for Period 1138.33

BALANCE ON HAND \$5627.18

UPCOMING EVENTS

June 23 - TAG SALE at David Kennedy's house 44 Oliver St. All donations gratefully accepted.

Sept. 15 & 16 - Fall Festival participation.

October - Plans are in progress for a Benefit Concert at White Brook Middle School.

The following two events are being considered for September and October:

Walk over the Mt. Tom Range

Walk up Mt. Monadnock

Should either of these be held before the next Newsletter is issued, details will be found in the Hampshire Life Calendar under the Recreation heading.

Board of Directors meetings are held the 2nd Wednesday of each month at a new location, the Sunrise Manor Community Room on Clark St.

FAREWELL TO NEWSLETTER STAFFER

Debra Gorham, a member of the Newsletter staff, has recently moved to Boston due to a career change.

Many thanks go to Debby for all her hard work and clever articles, as well as our congratulations and best wishes for the future.

NEWSLETTER STAFF

Diana Pinkos
Lynne Gosselin
Walter Hamilton
Art work by: Bob Pinkos