

NEWSLETTER



PASCOMMUCK CONSERVATION TRUST, INC.

P. O. Box 806
EASTHAMPTON, MA
01027

COMPLIMENTARY
COPY

VOLUME I NO. II WINTER, 1983

TRUST BEGINS "GREEN BELT"

The dream of an Easthampton Green Belt moved two steps closer to reality in 1983, as the Pascommuck Conservation Trust, Inc. purchased the former Warner Parcel on East Street and has accepted an offer for a six acre parcel off West Street.

Acquisition of the two environmentally important parcels by the Trust would be the first steps toward formation of an undeveloped strip along the Manhan as contained in the town's 1970 Master Plan and 1982 Open Space and Recreation Plan.

Both parcels are valuable as watershed and floodplain land. Their ability to store flood water every spring protects valuable personal property along the river from flooding.

October 5th, the Board of Directors voted to pay the \$1,405 balance of the \$2,000 price of the 4.8 acre Warner Parcel on East Street adjacent to the Daughters of the American Revolution Monument. Transfer of the deed from the Connecticut River Watershed Council is expected shortly.

Work parties have cleared and mowed the East Street frontage and a committee headed by Director Bob Pinkos has begun work on a sign to be erected there. It will bear the inscription: Old Pascommuck Conservation Area, with the Trust's name beneath.

Liability insurance up to \$300,000 on the Warner Parcel has been purchased. One year's premium cost \$200.00.

BOYLE DONATES LAND

On November 9th the Board of Directors unanimously agreed to accept the gift of a six acre parcel of land off Meadowbrook Drive bordering the Manhan River from developer Jim Boyle.

The land, which promises to be the next land acquisition by the Trust, is located behind homes being built by Mr. Boyle.

Mr. Boyle acquired the land as part of a larger parcel several months ago from the Northampton Institute for Savings. He will build several houses on developable parts of the property, leaving portions by the river undeveloped. The land was formerly owned by the estate of the late Richard Truehart.

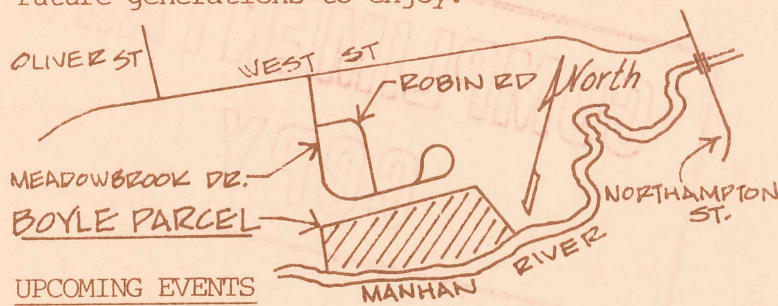
Because the land floods each spring, and is restricted by an Order of Conditions approved by the town's Conservation Commission, the land is not suitable for development.

The land could be used for farming, and its rental to a farmer for a small fee is possible, according to Director Michael Tautznik, who has been negotiating with Mr. Boyle for the land since he acquired it from the Truehart estate.

The Trust would be required to pay only a small closing fee (about \$100) to acquire the land. It should become part of the Trust's land inventory during the first quarter of 1984.

With the acquisition of both parcels, the Trust can look forward to connecting

the two with other parcels which lie between them. The result could be an unbroken line of undeveloped land in the public domain for future generations to enjoy.



UPCOMING EVENTS

JANUARY 8 - Meet your fellow trust members at the Sleigh Ride. Pascommuck Conservation Trust members and their friends are invited to join in an old-fashioned sleigh ride on Sunday, January 8th at Don McCray's farm on Alvord Street, South Hadley.

Whether or not there is snow, up to 30 people can join in the fun in scenic South Hadley, beginning at 4 pm. The ride will be about one hour long.

If enough interest is shown, the Trust will rent a bus to take sleigh riders from Easthampton to the farm and back. The cost of the ride per person is \$3.00. with a total price of \$5.00 per person.

If you are interested contact Michael Tautznik (work 527-5357 evng. 527-4233) before Dec. 30 for reservation. First come first served.

MESSAGE FROM TRUST PRESIDENT DAVID KENNEDY

Many thanks to all our hard-working members and friends of the Trust who made our fall calendar of events a rewarding success. The Fall Festival sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce was a great weekend for the community and the Trust. The Trust booth at the trade show and our boat tours of Nashawannuck Pond introduced the Trust to many new people.

There is not enough space to individually thank all those who have graciously given to the organization during this period. But you should know that you have had a substantial impact on the quality of our community.

The most tangible results of our efforts this fall are detailed in this newsletter. Preserving the open spaces along the Manhan River will be beneficial to neighborhoods in which they are located and to the whole community. I would urge all our members to get out and view the winter beauty of these parcels. A sleigh ride is being planned for January to allow members to get acquainted with each other.

The other major activity in January will be the membership renewal campaign. Your membership renewal will ensure that the Trust will continue to promote the well-being of our community through the wise use and development of our natural and historic resources. This renewal campaign also serves as the starting point to meet the challenge graciously offered by the Frank Stanley Beveridge Foundation. This special opportunity will provide additional enthusiasm to this year's fund-raising efforts. In conclusion, I would like to thank all those who supported the Trust this year and urge you to renew your membership with the Trust. Best wishes for the holidays.

David Kennedy
President

FALL FUND RAISERS ARE SUCCESSFUL

Three fall fund-raising events raised more than \$700 for Trust coffers and promoted public awareness about the Trust's work.

Fall Festival

At the Fall Festival, Sept. 17 & 18, Director Michael Tautznik captained a pontoon boat provided by Mick Duda of Oxbow Marina for information tours on Nashawannuck Pond.

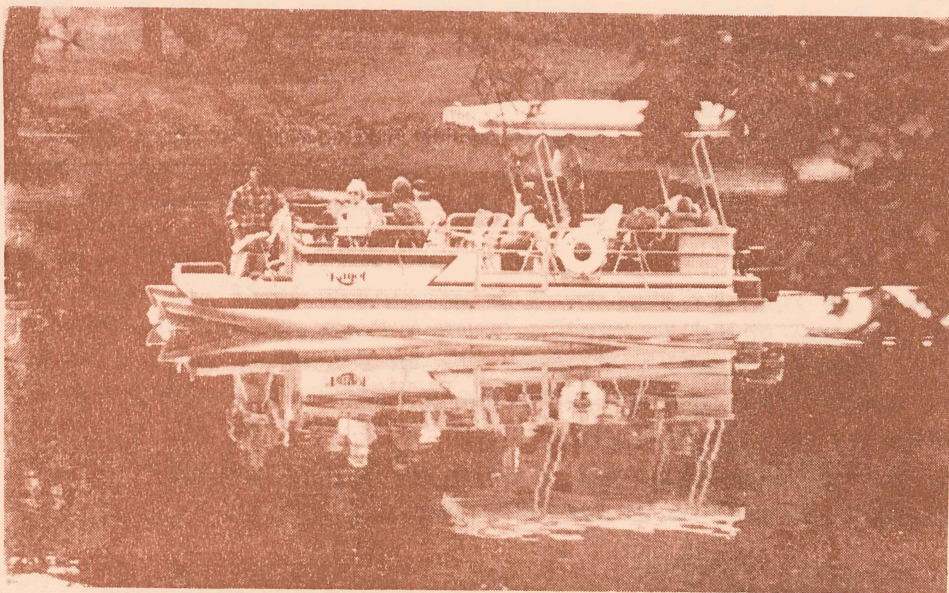
The history of the pond and its deterioration through the process of eutrophication was explained to the more than 300 people who took the tour. The pond could and SHOULD be saved by the town which has the option to purchase the pond from owner J.P.Stevens Co. for \$1.00.

The tour was such a success that the Trust has been invited by the Easthampton Bicentennial Commission to sponsor similar tours of the pond as part of the town's bicentennial celebration in 1985.

At the corresponding trade show at Easthampton High School, the Trust booth provided information and photographs of the Trust and its work.

Director Bill Burgart's photograph cards were unveiled at the show, with more than 30 orders for the stunning, rich-hued nature photographs taken.

More than \$100 was raised at the festival from donations and the sale of food items at the pond tours. Director Bill Carroll graciously donated the \$21 he won in a raffle at the Festival to the Trust.



Visitors to Easthampton's Fall Festival took advantage of the Pascomuck Conservation Trust sponsored boat tours of Nashawannuck Pond.

Photo donated by Frank L. Truehart Photography, Union Street, Easthampton

Bake Sale

Crumbs and \$250 in cash were the only things left following the very successful bake sale October 8 at Big E's Foodland.

Mr. Ed Corbiel, owner of the supermarket, donated space, containers and hot coffee for newsletter staff workers to ensure the success of their sale.

More than 60 foodstuffs, ranging from baked beans to pecan pies, were prepared by Trust members and friends for the sale.

The photograph cards made a return engagement at the bake sale with shoppers snapping up the cards for \$1.00 each.

Special thanks to the First Congregational Church for lending tables when the food donations outgrew the original space.

Tag Sale

Everything and anything from washing machines to fish tanks were sold at the October 29 Tag Sale on Oliver Street, raising more than \$200. Trust members and friends dug through cellars and attics to locate items, providing a vast inventory of merchandise for the sale.

Special thanks to Pat Kennedy for her organization and the workers who donated so much time to this project.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Beginning Balance	\$2160.00
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Income:

Membership Donations	\$ 82.00
Interest	20.99
Fund Raising Projects	794.96
	897.95

Expenses:

1962.03

Net Income (Loss) For Period	(1064.08)
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BALANCE ON HAND	\$1095.95
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NEWSLETTER STAFF:

Debra Gorham
Lynne Gosselin
Walter Hamilton
Diana Pinkos

TRUST RECEIVES CHALLENGE GRANT

A \$1000 challenge grant from the Frank Stanley Beveridge Foundation, Inc., has been accepted by the Pascommuck Conservation Trust, Inc. Under the terms of the grant, the foundation will donate \$1000 to the Trust's treasury if it can raise \$1000 from contributions in 1984.

Acceptance of the challenge has made next year's fund-raising efforts ever more important, as the Trust will double its proceeds if the goal is met.

Below is an excerpt from this letter announcing the challenge grant award.

Dear Mr. Kennedy:

On behalf of the directors of this foundation I am pleased to tell you that a challenge grant of \$1,000 was voted to the Pascommuck Conservation Trust, Inc. for the year 1984. Therefore, when you have raised \$1,000 in new capital and send us the supporting information a check will be forwarded in payment of our pledge.

We are happy to have a part in the conservation work being done in our community, and wish you much success with your program.

Sincerely,

THE FRANK STANLEY BEVERIDGE FOUNDATION, INC.

Therese V. Gusek, Administrator

DON'T FORGET

Dec. 1 to 25 - Buy your scenic Christmas cards benefitting the Trust at the Chamber of Commerce office, Union Street.

Jan 8, 1984 - Sleigh Ride at McCray's Farm South Hadley beginning at 4 p.m. Call Mike Tautznik to reserve space.

Jan. 11 - Board of Directors meeting at the Taylor Real Estate Office, Main St.

Feb. 4 - Winter Walk on Old Pascommuck Conservation Area (East St. Property) at 1:00 p.m. Meet at Memorial Hall Parking Lot to car-pool to site.

Feb. 8 - Board of Directors meeting at the Taylor Real Estate Office, Main St.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

RENEW--AND BETTER YET INCREASE--YOUR SUPPORT TODAY! FILL OUT THE MEMBERSHIP FORM BELOW, DETACH AND FORWARD IT WITH YOUR CHECK TO THE ADDRESS LISTED ON THE FORM, MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO PASCOMMUCK CONSERVATION TRUST, INC. REMEMBER, ALL DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE, SO MAKE SURE YOU BEAT THE DECEMBER 31 DEADLINE. BE A PART OF THE TRUST'S WORK IN 1984 AND ENSURE RECEIPT OF THE SPRING NEWSLETTER.

YES, I/WE WANT TO CONTINUE SUPPORTING PRESERVATION OF THE AREAS NATURAL RESOURCES AND HISTORICAL HERITAGE, AND HEREBY MAKE A TAX-DEDUCTIBLE CONTRIBUTION FOR MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL IN THE PASCOMMUCK CONSERVATION TRUST, INC.

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☐ REGULAR VOTING MEMBER.....\$ 6.00
☐ SUPPORTING VOTING MEMBER.....\$ 15.00
☐ CONTRIBUTING VOTING MEMBER.....\$ 50.00
☐ LIFE VOTING MEMBER.....\$ 150.00 OR PROPERTY

☐ I WOULD LIKE TO BE ACTIVE.

NAME _____ DATE _____
ADDRESS _____ PHONE _____