

Lowell Parks & Conservation Trust

Spring 2010 Newsletter

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Dear Friends,

How sweet the spring! The early flowers are pushing up and there are many more birds heralding the change of season. Like the plants and animals, we hope with renewed energy for personal growth. The Lowell Parks & Conservation Trust (LP&CT) embraces this sense of the cycle. Whitewater rafters from all over will soon be challenged by the rapids of the Concord River. They always take away a new respect for the City of Lowell and its great natural resources. Our members will soon have the opportunity to volunteer sprucing up the parks. LP&CT is not a special club, but a group of people who share the goal of acquiring and preserving the city's limited green space for all to enjoy. We can all benefit from reconnecting with nature and reflection. We challenge our members and readers to become more active. Visit our properties and bring family and friends.

As the newly elected president of LP&CT, I plan on following the path that my predecessors have helped to steer us toward. We will continue to educate youth about their natural environment. Large projects like the Concord River Greenway and the restoration of the Spaulding House are not beyond our means. They require building strong partnerships with city, state, neighborhood, and local agencies as well with and financial benefactors. Our Board of Directors will continue being involved and dedicated to making the Trust sound financially and strong in character. For those who share our goal of acquiring special places for the community, we encourage you to help build our membership. It is the backbone of the LP&CT. We look forward to new challenges.

Kind regards,

WELCOME, JENNIFER!



LP&CT is pleased to welcome Jennifer Loher to our staff, as Project Specialist. Jennifer lives in Lowell and has been an active member and volunteer with the Trust since she moved here with her husband in 2006. As a volunteer she has been a Greenway land steward and coordinated a clean-up of Jollene Dubner Park with Motorola volunteers. Jennifer is also an active yoga instructor.

WHITEWATER RAFTING

Raft with Zoar Outdoor—Weekends April & May Only!

It's whitewater rafting season again! Experience this unique adventure right in your own backyard. Our rafting trips depend on spring flow conditions, not dam-released water. The season is only as long as there is enough flow to run the rapids safely—so make your reservation early! Of course, this spring we've had a bit too much water, therefore we're starting the season two weeks later than we typically would. **Trips are operated in partnership with Zoar Outdoor on Saturdays and Sundays in April and May.**

All trips include two runs down the river through three sets of rapids (Class III and IV). At the end of the second run, you'll get to experience 'locking out' through the historic lock chambers behind UMass Lowell's Inn & Conference Center. **LP&CT's faithful locktending volunteers help provide this unique experience!** With the season already underway, we're pleased to have our largest, most enthusiastic corps of lock tender volunteers.

If you would like to raft as part of a **group reservation**, we have marketing DVD's that we can mail out to help you learn more about the trips. Please call us for this 3-minute video of an adventure of a lifetime 'right in your own backyard'.

All rafting proceeds support our work to establish the Concord River Greenway! We thank the UMass Lowell Inn & Conference Center and the Merrimack Repertory Theater for their support of our operations.



RIVERFEST 2010

Saturday, June 12, 2010 12-5 p.m.

Celebrating the Concord River Greenway, local music featuring River Rising Stars and family entertainers. Take a boat ride or a ranger guided tour, participate in recycled art-making activities, live animals, and more!



Local Music & Local Art



TREE STUMP ART

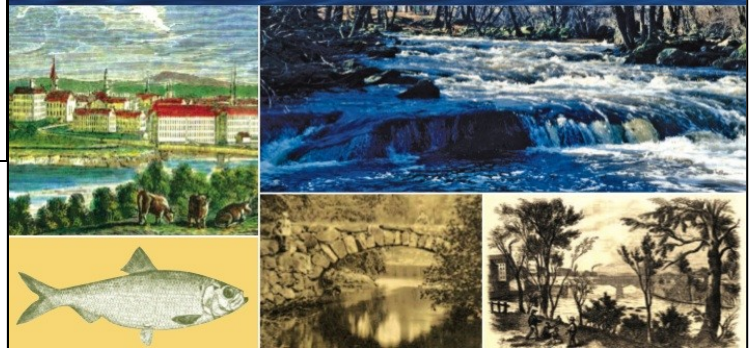


Artist Glenn Szegedy carved this tree on Luce Street thanks to Martha Mayo, Luce Street neighbors, and a Lowell Cultural Council grant. Jay Hungate has also carved a stump next to Glenn's. Enjoy!

GREENWAY DOCUMENTARY

River Cycle

THE CONCORD IN LOWELL



A lush garden cemetery. A dam built for the Middlesex Manufacturing Company. A gothic Catholic church. A lone smokestack. These are among the many relics of the past visible along the Concord River as it flows through Lowell. An attentive eye will also notice various natural features, like white water rapids, animal tracks, soaring hawks, and ferns & wild flowers. But the history and ecology of the waterway and its banks have been long neglected. Now Lowell's "other river" has been found.

River Cycle: The Concord in Lowell explores both past and present, from Native American fishing to current development of a recreational Greenway Park. It shows the Concord's key role in the stories we tell about industry, community, and nature. And it demonstrates how the purpose and meaning of the river changed over time, as our society changed, with the rise of manufacturing, economic decline, and current efforts at urban revitalization.

Join us to learn more and experience an important step in remaking Lowell.

River Cycle: The Concord in Lowell

April 20th, 2010, 6-8 pm

Boott Cotton Mill Event Center (2nd floor)

LP&CT RECEIVES SIGNIFICANT GRANT SUPPORT FROM:

Theodore Edson Parker Fdn.
City of Lowell CDBG Program
Massachusetts Cultural Council



Massachusetts Cultural Council

Art and Community Landscapes

(a partnership of the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Park Service and the New England Foundation for the Arts)

Aubert J. Fay Charitable Fund

Cultural Organization of Lowell (COOL)

Richard K. Donahue Sr. Park Maintenance Fund & Alfred H. and Kathryn E. Coburn Park Fund of the Greater Lowell Community Foundation (GLCF)

Demoulas Foundation

Frances R. Dewing Foundation

Joseph P. Donahue Charitable Foundation Trust

EPA Healthy Communities Grant Program

Fieldstone Foundation

Greater Lowell Community Foundation

Jessie B. Cox Charitable Trust Fund

Lowell Cultural Council

MA Cultural Facilities Fund

New England Foundation for the Arts—Arts Jobs (see p. 4)

NLT Foundation

Fund for the Arts, a restricted fund of the NE Foundation for the Arts

Philips Medical Systems

DOUBLE YOUR DONATION

Ask your employer about its Matching Gift Program.

Current business participants include:

Arbella, Aspect, Autodesk, Inc., Bickling Financial, Bristol-Myers Squibb, ca, FHI, HP, IBM, Juniper Networks, Millipore, National Grid/MA Electric, Polaroid, Sun Microsystems, and Verizon.

Please remember to submit your **matching gift form** with your next donation to LP&CT.

FIND US ON:



facebook

WE THANK

THE FOLLOWING FOR SIGNIFICANT IN-KIND SUPPORT:

Anstiss & Co., P.C.

Eno, Boulay, Martin & Donahue

LDFC/Lowell Plan

Jericho Road

QUALITY OF LIFE CAMPAIGN

WHAT DOES QUALITY OF LIFE MEAN TO YOU?

We thank the following 2009 donors to our Quality of Life Campaign, which will provide important discretionary funds to expand our diverse programs and projects. Please let us know if you would like to invest in Lowell's "Quality of Life"; we can send you information or meet with you in person.

James Calvin & Kamala Madhu
James Cooney Real Estate & Ins.
Courier Corporation
Gururaj Deshpande
Demoulas Foundation
George & Carol Duncan
Enterprise Bank
Lowell Five

SPECIAL PLACES PRINTS



A large selection of Mark Romanowsky's paintings are now available as true-to-size professional prints on canvas. All proceeds support the Lowell Parks & Conservation Trust.

www.lowelllandtrust.org or call us at (978) 934-0030.

EARTH WEEK EVENT

CELEBRATE EARTH DAY!

EARTH DAY EVENT APRIL 24, 2010

Sign up with a group or as an individual.

There are various clean-up areas such as the Northern & Western Canals, Community Gardens Greenhouse, and Kerouac Park, just to name a few.

Put your work clothes on and come out to lend a hand!

For more information or to sign up in advance please contact:

Lowell National Historical Park – Volunteer Office @ 978-275-1740

Lowell Canalwaters Cleaners – Bill Moreau @ 978-835-5147

Community Gardens Greenhouse – Deb Harding @ 978-761-5902

To sign-up on the day of the event, please come to the Middlesex Community College Cafeteria between 8-9 a.m. on April 24.



SPRING 2010 PROGRAM SERIES

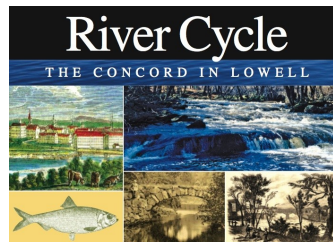
PLEASE RSVP (978) 934-0030



Whitewater Rafting

Season begins April 17, 2010
Saturdays and Sundays, April & May
Trips run at 9 AM & 1 PM
and raft Class III & IV rapids of the Concord River, Lowell

Reserve your seat now for your whitewater adventure! Our Concord River Whitewater Rafting season starts April 17th. We offer the region's "Best Urban Adventure," right here in Lowell. Experience the thrill of this unique experience and get a whole new look at Lowell. For information www.lowelllandtrust.org or reserve now by calling (800) 532-7483.



River Cycle: The Concord in Lowell

April 20th, 2010, 6-8 pm
 Boott Cotton Mill Event Center
 (2nd floor)
 115 John Street, Lowell, MA

Documentary Film Screening for Earth Week

Come meet representatives from *Lowell Parks & Conservation Trust*, *Lowell National Historical Park*, and the *Tsongas Industrial History Center* and explore Lowell's past and present. Learn about the Concord's key role in the stories we tell about industry, community, and nature. This special premiere event will also include a public unveiling of other resources designed to turn the finished Greenway Park into an outdoor classroom!



John Muir National Historic Site

Thursday, April 22, 2010 2:30 PM
 National Park Visitor Center auditorium

John Muir - founder of the Sierra Club, booster for our early national parks, and Scottish immigrant - played a critical role in establishing the environmental movement in the United States. Learn about the man and his unusual home, a unit of the National Park Service, in this presentation by LNHP's Chief of Cultural Resources David Blackburn.



Moses Greeley Parker Lecture

Sunday, April 25, 2010 2 PM
 National Park Visitor Center auditorium

Inspiring Creative Landscapes: The Concord River Greenway Project

Lowell Parks & Conservation Trust Executive Director Jane Calvin will discuss this ambitious project which links the cultural and historic landscape.

NON-PROFIT EXCELLENCE AWARD

LP&CT was pleased to receive three nominations for the Enterprise Bank Non-Profit Celebration of Excellence Award. All three nominations came from active volunteers with the Trust.

The Non-Profit Award “will honor and recognize a non-profit organization whose achievements and accomplishments are a result of successfully meeting or exceeding their mission and goals, making a significant and positive impact on the communities it serves.”

Soon after this newsletter goes to press we hope to have some indication if we're at least a finalist. The Celebration of Excellence gala will be Wednesday, May 5, 2010, 5-8pm, at the Lowell Memorial Auditorium. This is inspirational event will feature NFL Superstar and stroke survivor Tedy Bruschi.

CONCORD RIVER GREENWAY NEWS

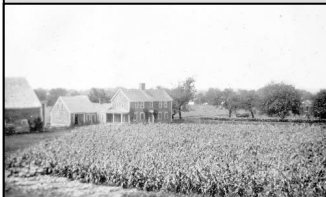


Ribbon-Cutting

Saturday, June 12, 2010 12pm

Just prior to the start of Riverfest in the Davidson section.

Hawk Valley Farm



The Lowell Parks & Conservation Trust and The Trustees of Reservations have partnered to conserve a critical five-acre parcel along Clay Pit Brook in Lowell's Pawtucketville neighborhood. This land, once the core of the historic

17th century Hawk Valley Farm, is situated between Varnum Avenue and the Lowell Heritage State Park's 'Regatta Field'. In May 2009, a Conservation Restriction (CR) was placed on the property with the land then sold back to the Varnum Family, who first settled on it in 1664 and have lived there continually through the present day. **To ensure that this local treasure is maintained as open space for the people of Lowell and surrounding communities, we are raising funds for its permanent stewardship. To contribute to the special fund, please check off the Hawk Valley Farm box on the reply form, (page 6, back of newsletter). We appreciate your support!**



Massachusetts Cultural Council



The public art component of the Greenway is funded in part by the Arts Jobs program of the New England Foundation for the Arts, made possible with funding from the National Endowment for the Arts and the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

Jollene Dubner Park Campaign



Jollene Dubner Park is named for a founding member of the Lowell Parks & Conservation Trust who died in 1994. The Park commemorates Jollene's spirit and heart-felt commitment to environmental protection. As a board member her passion for protecting public parks and open spaces helped to shape the organization's direction in its formative years.

The Park was completed in November 2000. It offers the only direct public access to the Concord River in one of the most densely developed sections of the city. An ornamental cast iron fence gracing the park was reproduced from remnants of an historic fence found on the site. The fence features a leaf pattern sheltered within an inverted heart. Granite benches, paid for by private contributions, provide seating along a curved pathway and views overlooking the Concord River.

The Lowell Parks & Conservation Trust created the park in cooperation with the City of Lowell. The Trust raised money through public and private grants, individual donors, and through proceeds from our white water rafting program. A portion of the proceeds also helped us establish the foundation for this endowment, which is now \$8,500.

LP&CT is seeking one-time gifts to fund a permanent endowment of \$35,000 with the Greater Lowell Community Foundation. Your gift will help ensure that the Jollene Dubner Park continues to be maintained with the highest quality care. Of course, gifts of all sizes will help us reach our goal.

To contribute to this special fund, please check off the Jollene Dubner Park box on the reply form, (page 6, back of newsletter). We appreciate your support!

PREPARATION FOR SPALDING'S 250TH



We thank Mill City Environmental (MCE) and other LP&CT volunteers for helping us prepare for the Spalding House's 250th birthday by cleaning out the basement in March. Volunteers included (l-r): Phillippe Loher, Rob Davidson (MCE), Deb Sofia, Dave Graham (MCE), Lisa Elliott (MCE), Olivia Elliott and friend, Jon Vance (MCE) and Nathan Moore (not shown Brian & Ryan Chapman and Stephen Conant).

PLEASE NOTE: ALL DONATIONS LISTED BELOW WERE RECEIVED BETWEEN **January 1—April 12, 2010**

SUSTAINING MEMBERS

Sustaining members provide ongoing monthly support. Donations noted below are annualized. We've now made it easier for you to become a sustaining member (monthly donor)!

Click Donate Now on our website!

Sustaining Members (\$250+)
 Walter Bacigalupo
 Stephen A. Conant & Nancy Rourke
 Matthew C. Donahue
 Nancy & Henri Marchand
 The McCauley Family

Sustaining Members (\$100-249)
 Cynthia & Charles Calvin
 Jon & Joni Dubner
 Matthew Foster
 Robert & Jane Gilmore
 Sheila Kirschbaum
 Richard & Nancy Pitkin
 DJ Prowell

Sustaining Members (\$1-99)
 Beverly Coughlin, A'ndrea & Brian Cutler, Elaine Demetroulakos, Laurel & David Martin, Lisa FitzGerald Wagner

J. DUBNER PARK DONORS

Please support those businesses that support our work (bold).

Jollene Dubner Lead Donors \$2,500+
 John Chemaly/Trinity EMS
 Richard K. & Nancy Donahue
 Nancy Dubner
 Elaine Zouzas & John Thibault

Jollene Dubner Donors \$500+
Courier Corporation

Jollene Dubner Donors \$200-250
 Gail-Ann Brodeur & Howard Martin
 Russell Todd

Jollene Dubner Donors \$100+
 Robert Bassett, **Joncas Associates**, Martha Mayo
 Richard & Mary Noon, **Pawtucket Pharmacy**,
 Anne Salzberg, Deborah Taylor, **Washington Savings Bank**

Jollene Dubner Donors \$50-99
 Richard & Anne Cavanaugh, Kevin and Ann Murna
 Kelly, Henri & Nancy Marchand, Richard & Nancy Pitkin

Jollene Dubner Donors \$1-49
 Mr. and Mrs. Curtis B Barton, David Bulman,
 Pauline Golec, Catherine & John Goodwin, Maria
 Robarge, Zakar Peter and Pearl Shakarjian, Nick
 Vergados, Roger and Lucretia Goff, John Schofield

ANNUAL FUND DONORS

Annual Fund Donors (\$100-249)
 John & Mary Abraham, James Knecht

Annual Fund Donors (\$1-49)
 Helen & Richard Fearon David & Kathleen

HAWK VALLEY FARM

Hawk Valley Farm Lead Donors \$1,000+
 Ellen Harde
 Andrea Peraner-Sweet & Mitchell Sweet MD

Hawk Valley Farm Donors \$250+
 Jessica Wieselquist & Bill O'Donnell
 Alan Emmet

Hawk Valley Farm Donors \$50+
 James Bogue
 Martha Mayo

Hawk Valley Farm Donors \$1-49
 Maureen O'Donoghue - Sack

SPALDING HOUSE

Captain John Ford & Family (\$1,000)

RENEWING MEMBERS

Please support those businesses that support our work (bold).

Renewing Members \$500+
 Dorothy Bickling
 Jeanne D'Arc Credit Union

Renewing Members \$250+
 Bruce & Joann Conant
Centennial Island Hydroelectric Company
 Nancy Dubner
 Mrs. Richard Emmet

Lowell Sun Charities
 Gail-Ann Brodeur & Howard Martin
 Martha Mayo
Mill City Environmental
 Carolyn & Britt Snyder
 Nicola Tsongas
Watermark Environmental, Inc.

Renewing Members \$100-249
 Clementine & William Alexis
 Nancy Bump
 Henry Damon
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 James and Terri L. Decker Kilmartin
 Claire King
 Liese Elerin & John Klein
 George & Donna Leahey
 Maria McGarry
 Joe Mendonca
 Nick Sarris
 Dorothy & Bernard Stumpf

Renewing Members \$50-99
Bay Circuit Alliance, Burr McCutcheon & Claire Arakaki, Rebecca Backman, John Bain, Judy & Alan Blackburn, Bruce Boulter, **Canalside Realty Trust**, **Community Teamwork, Inc.**, Frank & Rose Marie Carvalho, Ms. Claire Chamberlain, Roy & Lorraine Corbeil, Jim & Carol Cullen, John Foresteire, John & Carol Gallagher, Mitchell and Barbara Guziejka Jr., Margaret & Robert Hartwell, **Attorney George Jeffreys**, Susan & Lewis Karabatsos, Chris Loughton, Brian Leahey, Dr. & Mrs. Leo Makohen, Maureen Martin, Charles McColough, Nancy and Joseph Meehan, Donna Power, Sally & Dick Pratt, **Proprietors of the Lowell Cemetery**, Connie & Francis Raymond,

Joseph & Donna Smith, Bob Stanley, Linda Tanini, Vinod Tripathi

Renewing Business Members \$1-49
 Anita Adams, W. Robert Adie, Newton & Charlotte Akashian, Kathleen & Brian Barry, M. Elizabeth Bayard, Eleanor Belanger, Joshua Belkin, Norman Beloin, Mary Blazon, Elizabeth Brady, Arlene Brewster, Mr & Mrs. Joseph Brodeur, John Bukala, Eric & Josalyn Burgess, Mr. & Mrs. John Cadigan, Robert and Sonja Cahill, Kate Carney, Bernie Cassidy, Mr. & Mrs. Leo Cloutier, Bruce Comjean, Mr. & Mrs. Richard Conant, Brian Considine, Andrew & Thelma Coravos, Edward & Mary Croke, Harold Crowley, Jr., Phillip T. & Mary Dancause, Suzanne deLesdernier, Norman Desrochers, Joseph & Patricia Dion, Stephanie Duato, Marcia & John Dumaresq, Sandra & Thomas Eagan, Lois Fay, Helen & Richard Fearon, Mr. & Mrs. Matthew Fichtenbaum, Deborah Finch, Laurie Fischer, Virginia FitzGerald, Anne Marie Fortin, Lionel & Jeannette Gaulin, Bill Gerber, Bro. Charlie Gilbert, Sandra Green, Dorcas Grigg-Saito, Erika Grunwald, Mr. Arnold Hansen, Shirley and Raymond Hardy, James and Carol Harris, Donald Hogan, Ken & Mary Ann Hughes, Lynnda Ignacio, Robert & Mary Johnson-Lally, Stephen and Mary Kandrotas, George Stalker & Jean Keskulla, Katharine Kilbourn, Theodore & Ruth Kosiavelon, Mr. Kenneth Kriedberg, Leo & Deborah Krygowski, David LaBrode, Elizabeth & Edward Leary, **Lenzi's Catering**, Betty Levinson, **Lowell Gallery**, **Lowell Spinners**, Michael Lumenello, Margaret Low & Donald MacIver, Melia Mahoney, Frank Makarewicz, Robert & Jeanne Winn Makem, Lynne Maniscalco, Michele & Frank Marino,

Jay Mason, Thomas McCall, William & Janet McMahon, Kara & Patrick McNamara, Mary Ann McNamara, Christa Miller, James Moloney, George Montminy, O.D., Leslie Morin, Mr. & Mrs. Carl Narsasian, Richard & Deborah O'Brien, William O'Connell, Barbara Page, Edward Parsons, James & Helene Petersen, Jack & Helen Picanso, Richard & Mary Picardi, Virginia & Robert Powers, Cecile Provencher,

Stephen Purtell, Kathleen Quill, Philip & Patricia Ragnio, Helen Regan, Michelle Ritchotte, Maria Robarge, Jeremy & Robert Ryder, George Stamatoyanakis, Virginia Stowell, Charles & Joyce Sullivan, Mary Ann Szufnarowski, Mary Trombly, Margarita & David Turcotte, Bernice and Leslie Tye, Marc & Geraldine Vagos, Ms. Frona Vicksell, Reginald & Ruby Walker, James Waters, Cynthia Wilkening, Patricia Williams, Will Winslow, Amy Woo Skinner, George Zaharoolis

"I attended the 2 [LP&CT] programs yesterday with my niece and nephew. We all had a great time. I hope to attend more events - it's rewarding to find a group like yours in Lowell. The programs were layered & really interesting. Thanks!!"
 - Diana Zipeto

Thank you to the many donors that have contributed to our three on-going special fundraising campaigns:

- Jollene Dubner Park Endowment**
- Hawk Valley Farm CR Endowment**
- Spalding House Endowment**

Support the Lowell Parks & Conservation Trust. Become a member or renew today!

The **Lowell Parks & Conservation Trust** relies on membership dues for continuing our **mission** to protect the parks and open spaces of Lowell. If you haven't already, please consider joining the Trust today or renewing your membership.

Is your membership current?
Please see your address label.

Yes, I want to support the Lowell Parks & Conservation Trust!

\$250 \$100 \$50 \$25 \$15 \$ _____

Notecards: # _____ sets (\$10/set + \$2/shipping)

I've enclosed a **matching gift** form from my/my spouse's employer.

SPECIAL!

I'd like to become a **sustaining 'green' member** and donate \$ _____ monthly through my credit card

Please call or email me about **volunteering**: _____ (mailings, land stewards, lock tending, etc.).

Payment method: Check enclosed

Charge my credit card:

Visa

MasterCard

AmEx

Account # _____ **Exp.** _____ **Signature** _____

Name & address: _____

(For new e-news!) EMAIL: _____

Please mail to: LP&CT, PO Box 7162, Lowell, MA 01852

Would you like to make a special donation?

We have established separate funds to support these projects, *above and beyond* membership dues:

- LP&CT Endowment Fund
- Spalding House Maintenance Fund
- Jollene Dubner Park Maintenance Fund
- Hawk Valley Farm Endowment Fund—**NEW!**

----- Spring 2010 -----

Lowell Parks & Conservation Trust
PO Box 7162
Lowell, MA 01852

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Spring 2010 NEWSLETTER

Printed on recycled paper

Special Places Prints on Canvas



A large selection of Mark Romanowsky's paintings are now available as true-to-size professional prints on canvas. All proceeds support the Conservation Trust.

Brochure & order form on-line
www.lowelllandtrust.org or
call us at (978) 934-0030.

Spring 2010 Events

Please RSVP (978)934-0030

Concord River Whitewater Rafting

Starts April 17th! Weekends April & May.

Call to reserve your adventure now:
(800) 532-7483

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Tuesday, April 20, 2010 (6-8pm)

Boott Cotton Mill Event Center, 2nd floor
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John Muir National Historical Site

Thursday, April 22, 2010 (2:30 pm)

National Park Visitors Center auditorium

Inspiring Creative Landscapes: The Concord River Greenway Project

Sunday, April 25, 2010 (2pm)

Pollard Memorial Library

LP&CT Board of Directors

Dorothy Bickling

Brian Chapman

Christine Cole (Treas.)

Stephen Conant

Matthew C. Donahue, Esq.

Lauris Donovan

Sheila Kirschbaum (Clerk)

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William Martin, Esq.

Dr. Mark Romanowsky

Jane L. Calvin, *Executive Director*

Brian Cutler, *Project Specialist*

www.lowelllandtrust.org