



LOWELL PARKS & CONSERVATION TRUST

FALL 2014 NEWSLETTER

Fall 2014 Newsletter

PRESIDENT'S LETTER



Greetings!

Great news! We received **national accreditation** as a land trust on September 19th in Providence, RI at the National Land Conservation Conference (bottom right). The process was long and tedious. Many thanks to Jane Calvin, Gwen Kozlowski, and the LP&CT board members for all their hard

work and dedication to the task. We know this seems like pretty dry stuff, but it's about a lot more than just paperwork. Accreditation gives the Trust credibility across our diverse programs and projects. It also signifies that we uphold a level of **excellence in community conservation, organizational management, and leadership**. Kay Doyle's inspiring words (p. 2), given at our accreditation celebration, give further meaning to this experience.

At right are several students that volunteered their Friday night to speak at a Community Conservation reception at the conference in Providence. These students in our after-school program at Lowell High School's Compass program were invited to tell how their work in the **Environmental Adventures program has changed their lives**. They represented themselves and the program in away that we can all be proud of. Their stories captured the audience and carried the night. Stay tuned for some video clips! Congratulations to these future stewards of Lowell!

As you read through this newsletter, please **look for the stories** that convey how your support makes a difference. Those board members attending our accreditation ceremony were fortunate to hear Andy Goodman speak. As a former television writer, he now helps organizations tell their "story." We think the best are the "teachable moments," the impromptu gesture, unexpected generosity, or those "aha" moments.

As we approach our 25th Anniversary next year, we'll be looking for your good stories. Help us connect the dots, create links to history, or help others get a better sense of place. For all those who share our goals the challenge is there to tell a good story. Let us continue to build membership and financial support. There is much to do and we do need your help.

Enjoy the fall colors!

THE NATURE OF HOPE



Student participants and leaders of Environmental Adventures, run in partnership with Mass Audubon's Drumlin Farm Wildlife Sanctuary and the Compass Program at Lowell High, after speaking at the National Land Conservation Conference in Providence, RI.

Photo credit: DJ Glisson/Firefly Imageworks

"There is hope ... Growing up as a youth, for the three years that I've been with this program, growing as a young adult and a young leader, I can honestly say there is hope for our future. We are stamping our foot down in the ground and leaving a lasting impression. It will stay there all the time.

- words spoken by Bora, back center right with glasses, at the National Land Conservation Conference Community Conservation reception



At the Land Trust Accreditation Awards Ceremony: (left to right) Gwen Kozlowski, LP&CT Stewardship and Education Manager; LP&CT board member Sopheap Theam; Larry Kueter, chair, Land Trust Accreditation Commission; Jane Calvin, LP&CT executive director; Mark Romanovsky, LP&CT board President; and Jamie O'Hearn, LP&CT board member.



Celebrate Audubon

The Lowell Parks & Conservation Trust and the Pollard Memorial Library Foundation invite you to an exploration of the Library's special collection of John James Audubon prints.

Guest Speaker: Chris Leahy, Mass Audubon
November 5, 2014, 6:30-8:30 PM
Pollard Memorial Library Memorial Hall

SPALDING HOUSE LANDSCAPING



Spalding House Now Reconnected to the Merrimack River

Landscaping is underway in the backyard of the Spalding House, including the installation of a 600 sq. ft. blue stone patio, dry-laid stone walls, and granite steps. This is a capstone project for the exterior of this historical site in Lowell, following restoration of the house in 1999, the creation of Spalding House Park in 2010, and the restoration of the historic Lambert House (formerly Red Cross) next door completed this year. When we acquired the Lambert House in 2004, it was hard to imagine this ten years later, but many partners took significant roles in **transforming these properties into a unified landscape**. We look forward to having school groups and other visitors walking up from the Merrimack River to learn more about the Lowell's pre-industrial history.

We thank Richard and Nancy Donahue, Enterprise Bank, Brown & Rowe, Gilbane, Inc., and all the attendees at our 250th Spalding House celebration for helping the transformation above come to fruition!

LP&CT RECEIVES SIGNIFICANT GRANT SUPPORT FROM:



City of Lowell CDBG Program Massachusetts Cultural Council/ Youthreach Program

Aubert J. Fay Charitable Fund

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

Demoulas Foundation/Market Basket

Joseph P. Donahue Charitable Foundation Trust

Greater Lowell Community Foundation

Lowell Cultural Council

MA Society of the Order of the Founders of
the Patriots of America

After-school and out-of-school environmental education programs are also funded, in partnership with Mass Audubon, by the Lowell Public Schools' 21st Century Program, MA DESE ASOST Quality Enhancements grant program, and the Red Acre Foundation.

ACCREDITATION—WHAT IT MEANS

The following words were spoken by Kay Doyle, President of the Greater Lowell Community Foundation, at our land trust accreditation celebration in late September.

On behalf of the Greater Lowell Community Foundation, I salute the Lowell Parks & Conservation Trust for your success in earning accreditation from the Land Trust Accreditation Commission. Your collective efforts have resulted in this accomplishment thanks to the generosity of your donors, and the hard work of your staff, the Board of Directors, as well as the volunteers of the Trust. Furthermore, your organization is 1 of only 10 in Massachusetts, and 1 of only 280 land trusts in the country out of thousands of land trusts, to earn this level of distinction. Finally, this accreditation recognizes the overall excellence of your organization, not just for the land protection, but also for your programming, your finances, and the documentation of all of your work. Congratulations!

The Greater Lowell Community Foundation is very proud to be a partner with Lowell Parks & Conservation Trust as you continue to improve the quality of life for the citizens of Lowell, not just for the present, but for the future. In addition to being the beneficiary of several park [maintenance] endowments, your organization has established your own endowments with the Foundation. By doing this, you have taken the steps necessary to guarantee the financial security of your properties for generations to come.

Your commitment to preserving the land trust's properties for the future is visionary. Current and future citizens will be able to enjoy in perpetuity all of the Trust's parks, Hawk Valley Farm, and the beautiful Spalding House. Soon you, in partnership with the city, will be adding another jewel to your crown, the Concord River Greenway. As a member of this organization, I have long admired your work, watched you grow, reach for the stars, and *succeed*.

How very *fortunate* we are as city and region to have so many dedicated and generous people who give their time, their talent, and their treasure to invest in projects that benefit all of us now and forever. This organization and the work that you do is such a *gift* for our city and region as it enables *everyone*, no matter who they are, no matter where they live, no matter what their income level is or what their age is – it enables everyone to have the opportunity to experience nature right in their own backyard in an urban setting. They may have not known that it was here, but you have shown everyone the way. Through your programs, all of us will be able to learn as John Muir said, that “going to the woods is going home” so that “nature’s peace will flow into you as sunshine flows into trees. The winds will blow their own freshness into you, ...while cares will drop away from you like the leaves of Autumn”.

Because of *you*, everyone will have the opportunity to experience the restorative powers of nature, not just for the plants and the animals, but for themselves, a *gift for all and for all time*.

On behalf of the Greater Lowell Community Foundation Board of Directors and staff, I wish you continued success in your endeavors. We cannot wait see what you will be coming up with next! **Congratulations!**

EXPLORING EAST POND & CENTRALVILLE'S TREES

Third and fourth graders at the Shaughnessy and Greenhalge Schools took part this summer in a month-long program focused on ecosystems and service learning. The program, offered in partnership with Mass Audubon and the Lowell Public Schools, was funded by a grant from the MA Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (ASOST-Q).

While attending summer school the students worked on the broad themes of **wetland stewardship** (Shaughnessy) and **community forestry** (Greenhalge), all while expanding their literacy and science, math, and technology skills. In designing their own **service-learning projects**, they also developed advocacy skills, especially for one eight-year-old girl that was brave enough to present what she learned at East Pond to the Lowell City Council. [East Pond is a hidden jewel near the Spaghettilville bridge. This is one of only two ponds in Lowell; the other being near the Pyne School and Shedd Park.]

Throughout the summer community members joined the program to share their expertise and offer some exposure for the students to "what grown-ups do" - or career options. Business leaders, environmental leaders, city staff, UMass Lowell professors, and neighborhood leaders all met with the students to share their wisdom and hear what the students had planned for their projects. **Thank you to all of our special guests!**



Photo credits: April Hunt

SUMMER SOLSTICE SOIREE



We thank everyone that attended our annual Summer Solstice Soiree event, especially hostess **Martha Mayo**. The wines donated by Dawn and Levant Bozkurt and the Romanowsky family added a special touch to the evening. The evening's flowers were arranged by Nancy Rourke. Many of you donated in lieu of attending, which makes all the difference. Thank you to everyone involved for making this a special evening!

FALL 2014 PROGRAM SERIES

PLEASE RSVP (978) 934-0030



Tree Planting Workshop Saturday, November 1, 2014, 9 AM

Planting a "containerized" or "balled & burlapped" tree is not as hard as it looks. Do you remove the basket and all the burlap? How big should the hole be? How much water should the tree get? How about mulching and staking the tree? What about underground utilities? Come learn with us. **RSVP** for location, please: gwen@lowelllandtrust.org or 978-934-0030.

Celebrate Audubon



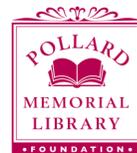
The Lowell Parks & Conservation Trust and the Pollard Memorial Library Foundation invite you to an exploration of the Library's special collection of John James Audubon prints.

Guest Speaker: Chris Leahy, Mass Audubon
November 5, 2014, 6:30-8:30 PM
Pollard Memorial Library Memorial Hall

Through the Trustees' John A. Davis Trust Fund, the Library has generously invested in the archival framing of several Audubon "Birds of America" prints, purchased in 1880. In celebration of the collection's conservation and display, the Lowell Parks & Conservation Trust, the Pollard Memorial Library and the Foundation will be offering a year of programming related to birds, birding, and the rich natural resources of the City of Lowell. This event also serves as the **Annual Meeting** for the Lowell Parks & Conservation Trust. *Audubon calendars and notecards, featuring the collection, will also be available for purchase.* Light refreshments provided.



This is a **free event**, but we kindly request your **RSVP** to info@LowellLandTrust.org



A GLADE IN THE MIDST OF A 'LITTLE WOOD'

Tyler Park Historic District 25th Celebration



Congratulations to the Friends of Tyler Park for a wonderful 25th Anniversary Celebration this summer!

The Tyler Park Historic District is centered around the park, which looks much like it did when established by landscape architect Charles Eliot in 1893. The original 2.74 acre parcel was donated to the city by Mrs. Samuel Tyler. Eliot joined the firm of Frederick Law Olmsted soon after taking the job, and after his death, work on the park was overseen by John Charles Olmsted. **Next time you visit this park enjoy the "glade in the midst of a 'little wood',"** (Eliot, 14 April, 1893).

YOGA



LP&CT sustaining member and former staff person **Jennifer Loher** graciously offered a **yoga class at the Sangha Yoga Collective** in August. Despite the rain, the room was full. We thank Jennifer, the owner, **Marie Marchand**, and all the attendees for their class fee donations to support our mission.

GIVE AT THE OFFICE



MAKE EARTH DAY EVERY DAY!

CFC # 54057

Take advantage of one of the easiest and most convenient ways to support the Lowell Parks & Conservation Trust! You can make a gift to the Lowell Parks & Conservation Trust by payroll contribution through **EarthShare New England's workplace giving** program at numerous private companies, many state and municipal government organizations, and in the **Combined Federal Campaign (CFC)**, by selecting our **CFC #54057** on your pledge form. Contributions to EarthShare New England support a broad range of charities committed to protecting public health and our air, land, water and wildlife.

The **Lowell Parks & Conservation Trust is a member of EarthShare**, a nationwide federation of the country's most respected environmental and conservation charities. To find out more about how you and your workplace can support the Lowell Parks & Conservation Trust through an EarthShare New England charitable giving campaign, please call Jessica Wozniak at info@earthsharenewengland.org. You can also visit EarthShare New England's web site at: www.earthsharenewengland.org.

SHOP FOR A CAUSE—MODERN KIDS DESIGN

Modern Kids Design™
eco+modern design



Modern Kids Design & LP&CT are both members of **1% for the Planet**. Because of this, Modern Kids Design reached out to us and we are now featured in their "Shop for a Cause" program. Please shop at www.modernkidsdesign.com, look for "Shop for a Cause," find our logo (alpha. listing) and **5% of your purchase will be donated to LP&CT!** Thank you, Modern Kids Design!

NOTES FROM MEMBERS



Birding Walk

"Just a note to say Lisa and I enjoyed the **birding program** this morning. I learned that vireo's are in the neighborhood! And a bird call that has been driving me crazy all

summer could very well be a towhee. Lisa was thrilled to have spied the blue heron and note the grey catbird call. We both were happy to realize that a great bird watching spot is the Concord River Greenway – which we plan to grab our lawn chairs and picnic lunch next Spring, so we can enjoy the song birds as they migrate back to the area. It is certain that many species of birds congregate in that unique area. **It's pretty exciting "sport" to birdwatch ... great for reducing stress and blood pressure!**

- Bonni Dineen, LP&CT member

DOUBLE YOUR DONATION

Ask your employer about its Matching Gift Program.

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

Current business participants include (*new):

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

Wildlife Photography

"I can't believe I've been driving as far away as Newbury and Topsfield to photograph wildlife only to find out today about two great **nature-rich locations right here in Lowell**. I want to thank the Lowell Parks & Conservation Trust for introducing me to the Concord River Greenway and Hawk Valley Farm, two incredible locations I never knew existed."

- April Hunt, professional photographer

*April, a UMass Lowell graduate student in Community & Social Psychology, will be volunteering with LP&CT ten hours per week through the spring of 2015. **Welcome, April!***

FIND US ON:



facebook

WE THANK THE FOLLOWING FOR SIGNIFICANT IN-KIND SUPPORT:

**Anstiss & Co., P.C.
Eno, Martin & Donahue
LDFC/Lowell Plan
UMass Lowell Inn & Conf. Center**

PLEASE NOTE: ALL DONATIONS LISTED BELOW WERE RECEIVED BETWEEN

April 1, 2014 — August 31, 2014

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

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 \$500+

Stephen A. Conant & Nancy Rourke, Lisa A. Gwiazda & Matthew Donahue

Sustaining Members \$250+

Walter Bacigalupo, Charlie & Phyllis Cutler, Henri & Nancy Marchand, Laurel & David Martin, The McCauley Family, Johanna Bohan Riley

Sustaining Members \$100-249

Beverly Coughlin, Joni & Jonathan Dubner, Robert & Jane Gilmore, Sheila Kirschbaum, Phillippe and Jennifer Loher, Maria McGarry, John Moynihan, Melissa & Steve Pennell, Bernard & Kathleen Petruzzello, Richard & Nancy Pitkin, D. J. Prowell, Doug Preble, TechLaw Inc., Carolyn Walsh

Sustaining Members \$1-99

Brian & Amy Cutler, Bob & Sue Dandaraw, Elaine Demetroulakos, Bill Reedy & Darren End, Ruth Murray, Susan Zacharer

RENEWING MEMBERS

Please support those businesses that support us!
BOLD = new members

Renewing Members \$7500 +

James N. Calvin

Renewing Members \$2500 +

Richard K. & Nancy Donahue

Renewing Members \$500 +

Newell Flather

Renewing Members \$250 +

George & Margo Behrakis, Bruce & Joann Conant, *Evan Coravos D.M.D., P. C.*, Nancy Dubner, *Lowell General Hospital, Lowell National Historical Park, Lowell Sun Charities*, Corey Sciuto

Renewing Members \$100-249

Mr. Reed Anthony, Burr McCutcheon & Claire Arakaki, **Ethel Atkinson**, Bernadette & Mike Baird, Eileen & Charles Byrne, Christine Cole, *Conway Insurance*, Roy & Lorraine Corbeil, Anthony & Martha Iarrapino, **Faith Kiver**, Marjorie Miller, Dierdra Murphy & Stephen Moriarty, Patricia & William M. Nickles, Jack & Therese O'Connor, John Pearson, Jr., Norma Ricci, Michael & Caroline Rider, Kate McLaughlin & Nate Soucy, *TEC, Inc.*, *Karin*

Theodoros, Esq., David Tweed & Mark Vincenzen

Renewing Members \$50-99

Suzanne Anderson, Richard Bagley, Maxa Berid, Judy & Alan Blackburn, Bob & Rita Bowen, Brian Smith & Jim Brunelle, Kristen Scopinich & Josh Burgel, Mr. & Mrs. John Cadigan, Charles & Sheila Carney, Arthur & Sandra Clough, Community Teamwork, Inc., Fred Faust, Gerald & Betty Holling, Robert & Mary Johnson-Lally, Mr. Stuart Johnstone, James Knecht, Helen Littlefield, Dr. & Mrs. Leo Makohen, Dr. Roy & Linda Maletz, Patrick & Janice McCabe, Nancy and Joseph Meehan, Kathy Muldoon, Joanne Myers, Charles & Jane Palmer, **Passe Temps Club**, Kathleen Quill, Mary & James Scanlon, Earl Sidelinker, Linda Tanini, *Ten Men, Inc.*, Eileen Trainor

Renewing Members \$1-49

W. Robert Adie, Deirdre & John Anderson, Chad Bantjes, *Albert E.J. Bergeron Insurance Agency*, Mary Blazon, Richard & Pamela Bohne, Arlene Brewster, John & Deborah Bukala, Kay Campbell, James Campbell, Kate Carney, Ms. Nancy Carringer, William & Dorothy Clark, Susan & Harold Coughlin, Alice G. Danas, Mary Ann Day, Suzanne deLesdernier, Dorothy Desmond, Bonni L. Dinneen, Michael & Margaret Dinneen, Stephanie Duato, **Karla Eusebio**, Joyce Fafard, Lois & Jennifer Fay, Helen & Richard Fearon, Deborah Finch, **Raymond & Collette Fitzgerald**, Ed & Barbara Flanagan, Kathryn Flinner, Winifred & Neal Flint, Mrs. Kathleen M. Flynn, Hugh & Rosemary Folsom, **Kathy Frechette**, Elaine Nugent & Jeff Glover, **Mary Frances Gorman**, David & Kathleen Gwiazda, Aurora Erickson & Chris Hayes, Carol Ann Hayton, Mary Ellen Hogan, Jay & Chrissy Hungate, Michael Jeans, Susan & Lewis Karabatsos, Catherine & Gerard Keane, Wayne & Nancy Kilker, Ron Kozlowski, Andre and Therese Lagasse, Sr. Lillian Lamoureux, Connie Lanseigne-Case, Diane Allenberg & James Latham, Jim & Kyra Leary, **Nancy Levine**, Timothy Little, David & Sharon Logvin, *Lowell Gallery*, Thomas McCall, Patricia McCoy, Joseph McInerney, Kara & Patrick McNamara, Mary Ann McNamara, **May Melanson & Henry Peront**, Ray & Trudy Michel, Suzanne Molleur Beebe, Meghan Moore, **Jen Murphy**, Karen Norton, Frances Nowak, Phil Noyce, **Ryan Owen**, Richard & Mary Picardi, Gail Pickering, Marilyn Pike, Charles & Elizabeth Santagati, Carl & Virginia Santamaria, Joellen Scannell, Mary Talbot, Jeanne Thompson, Thomas & Deborah Thornton, Charles Tsapatsaris, Marc & Geraldine Vagos, Mr. Jason Vinas, Becky Warren, Leanne Gillis & Kevin Wayne, Cynthia Wilkening, David Willey, Will Winslow

Thank you to the First Parish Unitarian Universalist Chelmsford for gifting half of their plate donations on Easter to support the maintenance of Jollene Dubner Park.

ENDOWMENT GIFTS

Thank you for the following gift to our endowment funds, held at the Greater Lowell Community Foundation.

Jollene Dubner Park Maintenance Fund: David and Margaret Reiter

Other funds include those to support:

- Coburn Park**
- Donahue Park**
- Hawk Valley Farm**
- Kittredge Park**
- Liberty Park**
- Spalding House**

and our newest endowment for **Spalding House Park**

Thank you!

Thank you to the following groups for helping us get a few special places ready for winter!

- **Omicron Delta Kappa (ODK)** Day of Service volunteers, Delta Kappa Phi fraternity, **Polycom**, and **Harbor of Hope** tackled the Concord River Greenway.
- **TechLaw's** energetic volunteers painted the Spalding House fence.
- **Princeton Properties** employees revisited Kittredge Park.

We also look forward to having these groups join us soon: Lahey Health/CBS EcoMedia and UTC Air Space Systems.

Can your group help make a difference?

Contact: gwen@lowelllandtrust.org



LP&CT member **Mike Baird** generously shared his self-taught expertise in birding at both the Concord River Greenway and the Lowell Cemetery. The diversity of species, hidden **bird watching** nooks, and secret nest sites made the early morning worth it. Thank you, Mike!



We thank LP&CT sustaining member and former staff person **Brian Cutler** for donating his construction skills to repair the **Spalding House's porch**. This has made all the difference with the new landscaping being installed this fall!

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.

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 LP&CT 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 endowment funds to support these projects, *above and beyond* membership dues:

<input type="checkbox"/> LP&CT Endowment Fund	<input type="checkbox"/> Jollene Dubner Park
<input type="checkbox"/> Spalding House Fund	<input type="checkbox"/> Hawk Valley Farm
<input type="checkbox"/> Liberty Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Kittredge Park

✂ _____ ✂ _____ ✂ _____ Fall 2014



LOWELL PARKS &
CONSERVATION TRUST
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FALL 2014 NEWSLETTER

Printed on recycled paper

Workplace Giving

'Tis the season of workplace giving! If you're a state or federal employee, you can select the Lowell Parks & Conservation Trust for payroll giving.

CFC # 54057



Is your company part of EarthShare New England? If not, Let us know if you'd like to learn more about this opportunity for workplace giving.

Fall 2014 Events

Please RSVP (978)934-0030

Tree Planting Workshop

Saturday, November 1, 2014, 9 AM



*Celebrating
Audubon*

**Chris Leahy:
LP&CT Annual
Meeting**

Wednesday,
November 5, 2014,
6:30 PM

LP&CT Board of Directors

Brian Chapman

Christine Cole (Treas.)

Stephen Conant

Matthew C. Donahue, Esq.

Sheila Kirschbaum (Clerk)

William Martin, Esq.

Jamie O'Hearn

Dr. Mark Romanowsky (Pres.)

Sopheap Theam

Jane L. Calvin, *Executive Director*

Gwen Kozlowski,
Education & Stewardship Manager

www.lowelllandtrust.org