Greetings! What a beautiful summer with long stretches of clear skies. Unfortunately, those cloudless skies made for an exceptionally dry season. This was most visible when the Concord River dropped to half of its historic low flow for several weeks. You probably saw your gardens wilt in the heat, and now you may be seeing the foliage changing on trees impacted by the drought.

From the river bottom to the tree tops, our entire ecosystem has been stressed. Water conservation has risen to the forefront in a region that typically sees plenty of rain. Whether our water comes from our rivers or underground aquifers, we tap into water sources that we all share.

This summer’s drought inspired our summer youth programs to focus on water — and how it connects us all. Students explored wetland habitats, watersheds, invasive plants along our rivers, and water pollution.

Your support provides these summer learning opportunities for youth of all ages. It’s fun to watch them assess, protect, and appreciate the resources around them. Student-led projects this summer resulted in a new “welcome” sign on the Concord River Greenway (photo, right) and a video about the environmental impact of our food choices for use in school cafeterias. Your continued support is meaningful for these future leaders of community conservation.

Finally, it is gratifying to see so many new faces, along with our long-time supporters, at our programs. Whether you’re interested in kayaking or natural dyeing (with walnuts!), join us for an adventure outdoors. Join us for an upcoming event, maybe volunteer, and share your experiences so more people know about our work.

As fall approaches, let us enjoy the colors of fall, but also… let us sing and dance for rain!

Best to all,

Mark Pomeroy

Bunker Hill Roll of Honor Presentation & Annual Meeting
Wednesday, November 16, 2016, 6:30-8:30PM
Memorial Hall, Pollard Memorial Library, Lowell

“The men who lived and loved and labored within our original boundaries and whose patriotism on that day made it possible for our fair city of Lowell to have existence.”

The Spalding House collection includes some unique artifacts related to Lowell’s history, including a Bunker Hill Roll of Honor. The parchment document lists the names of men from Chelmsford, Dracut, and Tewksbury, who fought at Bunker Hill. LP&CT worked with the Northeast Document Conservation Center to restore the brittle document and to remove it from its cardboard backing. Generous donors in each of the four communities mentioned in the document have contributed toward the restoration.

Please join us at a special event to unveil the Roll of Honor. A Bunker Hill Monument park ranger will speak about the Lowell area’s role in the Battle of Bunker Hill, helping to bring this document to life.

Concord River at Wamesit Falls (S. Hallissy)

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Spindle City Corps (SCC) teens carried out several projects this summer to improve the Lawrence Street gateway to the Concord River Greenway. Photo from left: Thay Naing, Rithany Kheam, Judith Rwakabuba, Carlos Torres, Eliezer Mendez, and Richard Maker
**Concord River Greenway—Next Phase of Design**

The Concord River Greenway provides a critical missing link in the regional trail network, including the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail and Bay Circuit Trail. Two (orange) sections of the Greenway are now in final design, led by the design team at Brown Richardson Rowe and the City of Lowell. **Join us for a Concord River Greenway Tour, October 15th, 10 AM, offered as a part of Lowell Walks** (will include sections 2A and 2B above).

This color version of the newsletter has been funded by the Land Trust Alliance — in anticipation of the redesign of our website and newsletter.

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**LP&CT Receives Significant Grant Support From:**

- **City of Lowell CDBG Program**
- **Massachusetts Cultural Council/Youthreach Program**
- 3M Foundation
- Constellation, an Exelon Company
- Aubert J. Fay Charitable Fund
- Joseph P. Donahue Charitable Foundation Trust
- Greater Lowell Community Foundation
- Hazeldean Foundation
- Land Trust Alliance
- Lowell Public Schools 21st Century & MA DESE ASOST
- Saab Family Foundation

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**Changing Lives**

This summer eight students at Lowell High School, including four incoming freshmen, explored climate change through the lens of food.

This month-long program was funded by an ASOST grant to our program partners at Mass Audubon from the MA Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

There were some memorable “aha” moments, including:

- **“This is what the presidential stuff should be about… Everyone’s talking about immigration and borders and stuff, but this is what’s really important.”**
  - Jose G., during a lesson about topsoil

- **“I just think everyone should spend more time in nature.”**
  - Amina Bangura, during a field trip to the Urban Farm
**Summer Solstice Soiree**

“Without this organization our thoughts would not have gone to planting those two majestic trees that will now bear witness to generations in our community.”

- Amy & Jason Perry

LP&CT hosts an annual Soiree, a fun backyard celebration of the solstice. This year’s event, held in June, was graciously hosted by Lisa Gwiazda and Matt Donahue. Many people contributed to the success of the evening, but we would be remiss in not mentioning Cindy Meklenburg’s beautiful floral arrangements and Thomas O’Hearn’s *On The Spot* photography. Thank you all for a great evening!

Speakers included Lindsey Black, a first-time locktending volunteer with our Concord River whitewater rafting program, and Amy Perry (photo below, left), a participant in our first-time homebuyer tree planting program (offered in partnership with the Merrimack Valley Housing Partnership each spring). They both spoke to the impact of these programs, which Amy so aptly noted above.

**Thank you to all attendees, volunteers, and donors!**

**Workplace Giving**

| EarthShare New England | CFC # 54057 |

‘Tis the season of workplace giving! If you are a state or federal employee, you can select the Lowell Parks & Conservation Trust for payroll giving. **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 2016 Program Series**

**Please RSVP (978) 934-0030**

**Binocs & Birding**

Saturday, October 15, 2016
7:30 - 9 AM

Bring your binoculars to observe fall migrants that use the habitat of the Concord River corridor and the Lowell Cemetery as they make their way south. This walk is suitable for beginners and those with limited mobility. Please RSVP. Led by LP&CT volunteer: Mike Baird. **Meeting place:** Lawrence St. entrance to the Lowell Cemetery.

**Lowell Walks: Concord River Greenway**

Saturday, October 15, 2016 10 – 11:30 AM

Join our executive director Jane Calvin and Lowell Walks' host, Richard Howe, for a tour of the Concord River Greenway. Get a backdoor tour of the Greenway, see the newest set of design plans for new sections, and explore Centennial Island. **No RSVP required. Meeting place:** Lawrence Street entrance to the Lowell Cemetery.

**Bunker Hill Roll of Honor Presentation & Annual Meeting**

Wednesday, November 16, 2016 6:30-8:30 PM
Pollard Memorial Library Memorial Hall

This special Annual Meeting presentation will feature the recently restored *Bunker Hill Roll of Honor*, one of the Spalding House’s most patriotic artifacts. A national park ranger from Bunker Hill Monument will speak about the role of the militia from the Lowell area, bringing this document to life.

**Merrimack River Hike & Picnic**

Saturday, November 19, 2016 9AM - 2PM

Reserve your spot for this popular 8+ mile hike. We’ll provide transportation to the start of our hike. Registration fee of $15, please bring a picnic lunch. Please RSVP for more details, meeting location, and for our head-count.
Thank you!

Office help: Sheila Hallissy, Helen Littlefield, Kenny Nyugen, Emily True, and UMass Lowell’s Sigma Beta Rho Fraternity

Land Stewards: Bruce Cote, Sheila Hallissy, Rachel Hervieux, Helen Littlefield, Jack Moynihan, Rhonda Regan, and Barbara Whitney

Spalding House: Billerica Autism Initiative, Constellation, an Exelon Company (special thanks to Pat Murphy), Kurt Meklenburg, and Jon Geer

Park Stewardship: Harbor of Hope Christian Church (Love Lowell Week), First Parish Unitarian Universalist, MCC Phi Theta Kappa, Polycom, Tyngsboro High School, UMass Lowell’s Sigma Beta Rho, and Zachary & Yvonne Ware

Locktenders: Lindsey Black, Bob Bowen, Betsy Chisholm, Long Chu, Brian Dagley, Brian DeAngelo, Michael de la Vega, Elizabeth Field, David Fieldsd, Helen & Dan Gillis, Barry Green, Jim Kelleher, Don Ray, and Roger Sumner

Soiree Photography: Thomas O’Hearn, On The Spot

Can your group help make a difference?
Contact: cmeklenburg@lowelllandtrust.org

Many Hands Make Workload Lighter

Donations, cont.

Annual Fund Gifts

Donations to the Annual Fund are above and beyond annual membership dues (below received January-June 2016). We thank the following for the contributions, which provide critical unrestricted support.

Annual Fund $1,000+
Anbaric Holdings

Annual Fund $250+
James & Amanda O’Hearn, Donald Pearson

Annual Fund $100-$249
Robert Caruso, Maureen Gervais, Henry Kucharzyk, Robert & Mary Johnson-Lally, Brian & Elise Martin, Martha McGowan, James & Anabel Milinazzo

Annual Fund $50-99
Martha Duffy, Marshall & Susan Field, Ms. Rachel Hervieux, Elizabeth Hunt & J. David Titterington

Annual Fund $1-49
Beau Art Painting, Francis J. Duggan III, Julie Sarason & Paul Feuerstein DMD, Thomas & Alison Frost, Mr. & Mrs. Frank Grady, Bob & Patricia Stanley, Thomas Stupakewicz, Mary Ann Szufnarowski, Cynthia Wilkening, Peter vonAu

Employer Matching Gifts

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:

Find us on:

@lpct

We thank the following for significant in-kind support:

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

Concord River Kayaking trip, June 2016. Enjoying time on the river, above, is long-time member Peter Kaselis.
Renewing Members $100-$249

Renewing Members $500-$99

“Preserving and rehabilitating our diverse urban landscape is such a worthy cause. This city has given so much to me, I always want to contribute in any way I can. It’s so awesome when something you enjoy can help what you love.”
- Elena Kalogeropoulos, on selecting LP&CT to receive 100% of eBay sale proceeds (via Lynderella Lacquers).

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

Renewing Members $2,000+
Bruce & Joann Conant
Mark & Renee Romanowsky
Sustaining Members $500+
Stephan A. Conant & Nancy Rourke
Lisa A. Gwiazda & Matthew Donahue
Sustaining Members $250+
Walter Bacigalupo, Charlie & Phyllis Cutler, Laurel & David Martin, The McCauley Family

Sustaining Members $100-249

Sustaining Members $1-99
Prudence Brighton, Brian & Amy Cutler, Sherri DeCarvalho, Gwen Kozlowski, Louise Saulnier-Andrews, Lisa FitzGerald Wagner

RENEWING MEMBERS

BOLD = Please support those businesses that support us!

* = new members

Renewing Members $2,500+
Joseph P. Donahue Charitable Foundation, Richard & Nancy Donahue Charitable Foundations Trust

Renewing Members $500+
Jeanne D’Arc Credit Union
Gururaj & Jaishree Deshpande

Renewing Members $250+
Behrakis Foundation, Centennial Hydroelectric Company, Evan Coravos DMD P.C., Francis J. Duggan III, Mrs. Richard Emmet, Lowell High School, Gail-Ann Brodeur & Howard Martin, Martha Mayo, Mill City Environmental, Nicola Tsongas

LOWELL PARKS & CONSERVATION TRUST

PAGE 5


Sustaining members provide ongoing monthly support. Donations noted below are annualized. Your monthly donation provides critical year-round support. You can control the timing (monthly, quarterly) and source (credit card or checking).

Sustaining Members $2,000+

Sustaining Members $500+

Sustaining Members $250+

Sustaining Members $1-99

Sustaining Donors

Monthly Donors

Your monthly donation provides critical year-round support. You can control the timing (monthly, quarterly) and source (credit card or checking).
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.

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

FALL 2016 NEWSLETTER

Mark Romanowsky’s ‘Special Places’ Paintings are now available on Etsy:

www.etsy.com/shop/MarkRomanowskyLPCT

- and at -

COOL Place

70 Merrimack Street, Lowell

Fall 2016 Events

Please RSVP (978)934-0030 or cmeklenburg@lowelllandtrust.org

Binocs & Birding
Saturday, October 15, 2016, 7:30 AM

Lowell Walks: Concord River Greenway
Saturday, October 15, 2016, 10 AM

Bunker Hill Roll of Honor
Thurs., November 16, 2016  6:30PM

Merrimack River Hike/Picnic
Saturday, November 19, 2016, 9AM

www.LowellLandTrust.org

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