I follow, follow, where thy waters run
Through unfrequented, unfamiliar fields,
Fragrant with flowers and musical with song;
Still follow, follow, sure to meet the sun,
And confident that what the future yields
Will be the right, unless myself be wrong.

The Two Rivers, Sonnet II
Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

The fall equinox has ushered in cooler temperatures, colorful foliage, and a bountiful harvest. As fall moves along, we New Englanders can appreciate this change and know why Thanksgiving is a special day.

Aldo Leopold explained conservation as "a state of harmony between men and land." Our role as a land trust in an urban environment is not only to acquire, protect and make accessible open spaces for all to enjoy, but also to educate especially our youth. Your support has helped us expand our after-school environmental program, offered in partnership with Mass Audubon, to nine schools. Several of our inspiring graduating seniors spoke at our Summer Solstice Soiree. This new generation clearly understands the importance of harmony.

These youth are fortunate to have two beautiful rivers that run through our city, each with their own unique access. This fall we’ve begun permitting for the final stages of the Concord River Greenway, in partnership with the city. Soon, more of the river’s banks will become more “frequented” and “familiar.”

Thank you to all who support our efforts, both through your donations and through volunteerism. Your contributions, small or large, are essential for our success. Please take the time to get out and visit our open spaces and participate in our programs. Help us share in the “land ethic” that Aldo Leopold wrote so eloquently about.

Best wishes for a wonderful Thanksgiving.

Mark Romano

The Bruce Freeman Rail Trail (BFRT) is expanding east and west at the same time. The trail currently ends at a tunnel under Route 3 near the edge of the Cross Point parking lot and the border with Chelmsford. Soon, the trail will extend through Cross Point and under the Lowell Connector to the edge of the Target plaza parking lot. Part of this connection passes over land where the Gervais auto dealership will be expanding.

This extension of the BFRT became more of a reality when the Gervais Auto Group agreed to grant an easement for a trail right-of-way, as a part of the dealership expansion.

The public support shown at the Conservation Commission and Planning Board meetings went a long way toward gaining the approval of those boards and we greatly appreciate those who took the time to attend those meetings. The Gervais Auto Group also generously agreed not only to allow the Bruce Freeman Rail trail to extend onto this land, but to pave a portion of the BFRT as well! By granting a trail easement, the Gervais Auto Group has provided the link to someday connect with the both the Concord River Greenway and the LRTA terminal.

Hike the Great Wall along the Northern Canal Walkway
Saturday, November 18, 2017 10AM-2PM
This ranger-led 3-mile round trip walk will start at the Boott Mills, venture to the Spalding House where you can take a break, enjoy a brown bag lunch, and join in our Annual Meeting presentation, then head back to Boott Mills.
Changing Lives - Summer Programs

During the summer our team of environmental educators ran five different month-long Lowell Leaders in Stewardship programs throughout the city. These programs are offered in partnership with Mass Audubon’s Drumlín Farm Wildlife Sanctuary and the Lowell Public Schools. Youth of all ages get to connect with and explore the rich natural resources right in their city.

Incoming ninth-graders at the Freshman Academy’s Compass Program learned about how green spaces can reduce climate change impacts.

Bartlett School students started each session with a walk along the canal to encourage their observation skills and curiosity. The walks led to questions about local wildlife and pollinators. They made signs to remind people to “Save the Milkweed” for monarch butterflies.

Greenhalge students explored their schoolyard with a scavenger hunt, finding a variety of insects and plants. They also had many animal visitors from Mass Audubon’s Drumlín Farm— including a duck that laid an egg during her visit!

McAuliffe students, armed with bug nets, ‘hunted’ for insects around their schoolyard, placing any caught insects into a ‘bug house’ so they could make observations up close. They also visited with a screech owl, a turtle and a snake.

Every year, we’re fortunate to work with Spindle City Corps. This outstanding group of young men and women get to work on a project of their choosing that enhances Lowell’s green spaces. Corps members decided to focus on Jollene Dubner Park, a property that many of them have visited growing up in Lowell. The students worked through many hot afternoons to clear invasives from the riverbank, exposing a view of the river we haven’t seen in a long time.

Volunteer Appreciation — by the Numbers

Over 300 volunteers pitched in last fiscal year to steward our properties, help in the office, improve trails, and count fish, among other tasks. We celebrated all of the individuals and groups that support our work during a fun event at the Spalding House last summer. Thank you, again!

We had a terrific spring season with anadromous fish monitoring with over 50 volunteers making over 260 observations at the Centennial Island Fish ladder. As a pilot year, we couldn’t have been more impressed by the commitment of these monitors, especially considering the tough-weather conditions!

LP&CT Receives Significant Grant Support From:

Cummings Foundation
3M
City of Lowell CDBG Program
Constellation, an Exelon Company
DeMoulas Foundation
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
Joseph P. Donahue Charitable Foundation Trust
Hazeldean Foundation
Land Trust Alliance
Lowell Public Schools 21st Century
MCC Youthreach Program
Nyanza NRD Council
SuAsCo River Stewardship Council

Congratulations to our TREES youth from Lowell High School (Angeline Castillo, Sarah Silva, Amina Bangura, Lily Chhun, among others) who were awarded the SuAsCo River Stewardship Council’s River Steward Award for their work, including organizing a watershed-wide youth conference last March.
Eco-Film Series 2018

Eco-Film Series Celebrates Five Years of Inspiring Films

Over thirty curated films have been selected to be screened throughout the five years of our annual Eco-Film Series. This FREE series is offered annually, in partnership with the Lowell Film Collaborative and the Lowell National Historical Park.

Mark your calendars for 2018 Eco-film Series (last Tuesday of the month, January-June).

Our 2018 film screening dates are:
- January 30, 2018
- February 27, 2018
- March 27, 2018
- May 29, 2018
- June 26, 2018

Thank you to our sponsors:

Thank you to our sponsors:

Many Hands Make Workload Lighter

Thank you!

Office help: Helen Littlefield and Barbara Whitney
Land Conservation Stewards: Constellation, an Exelon Company (above), Bruce Cote, Sheila Hallissy, Martha Iarrapino, Rachel Hervieux, Helen Littlefield, Jack Moynihan, and Barbara Whitney
Spalding House: Brenda Coleman, Constellation, Enterprise Bank, Georgoulis Roofing
Park Stewardship: ARRIS interns, Benu Networks, First Parish, Harbor of Hope Christian Church, Dun & Bradstreet, Polycom, UML Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu Club, UML Phi Sigma Rho

Can your group help make a difference?
Contact: emily@LowellLandTrust.org

A Welcome and a Sendoff

Meet LP&CT’s growing staff team!

Thanks to your support, we've grown to five staff now, including two new faces this fall.

Emily McDermott, Stewardship & Education Manager, most recently served as a volunteer and outreach coordinator at Pinnacles National Park and also served two years with Americorps in Massachusetts. She's happy to be back in her home state and to join the Lowell community.

Leigh Cameron, Environmental Educator, got to know the Trust when she brought her family to our Kids’ Week events. Leigh currently chairs the Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts’ Environmental Studies School. Leigh is happy to switch from research in the food & beverage industry to her passion for environmental education.

Many of you will also recognize Kathy Hirbour, a long-time educator with the American Textile History Museum. She joined us a year ago, teaching in the after-school program. She has a keen interest in the Spalding House, so expect to see the house museum open more.

Bora Poun, once a student in our programs, now teaches in our after-school program while going attending UMass Lowell.

With the arrival of Emily and Leigh, we extend a fond farewell to Carolyn Meklenburg as she follows her newfound passion to graduate school at Tufts in Urban Planning & Environmental Policy. She’ll stay involved with the Trust through class projects and research. We already miss Carolyn's positive energy, creativity, and can-do approach to any project!

The Trust is fortunate to have the energy of this terrific, fun team working to "create community through conservation!"
Renewing Members S1-49 (continued from p. 5)

Special Contributions

Special Places Painting Contributions

Hunt Clark Cemetery
Mr. Horace Brown

Donate Your Car
Gilreath Family

Jollene Dubner Park
John Couture, First Parish Unitarian Universalist Chelmsford, Linda Leonard, Loretta Lynn Morrell, and Cynthia Van Ness

We thank the following for their in-kind support:
Anstiss & Co., P.C.
LDFC/ Lowell Plan
UMass Lowell Inn & Conference Center

Give at the Office
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 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. Thank you to recent donors already supporting us through EarthShare at Pearson Education, Entcom, New England Aquarium, and TIAA-CREF.

Tree Planting with First-Time Homebuyers
One of our favorite partnerships is with Merrimack Valley Housing Partnership’s Project Genesis first-time homebuyer program. We provide the tree, training, and resources to plant a tree at their new home; they reap the benefits of lower utility costs, increased shade, and increased property values. Pictured (from left): LP&CT executive director Jane Calvin, Geoff & Sarah Foster, Antonio Couzo, Bunrith Sath, and Lozitha Nzula.

Employer Matching Gifts
Ask your employer about its Matching Gift Program. Please submit your matching gift form with your next donation to LP&CT.

Current business participants include:
SUSTAINING MEMBERS
Sustaining members provide ongoing 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+
Bruce & Joann Conant
Mark & Renee Romanowsky

Sustaining Members $500+
Lisa A. Gwiazda & Matthew Donahue

Sustaining Members $250+
Walter Bacigalupo, Stephen A. Conant & Nancy Rourke, Charlie & Phyllis Cutler, The McCauley Family

Sustaining Members $100-249

Sustaining Members $1-99
Prudence Brighton, Brian & Amy Cutler, Bob & Sue Dandaraw, Elaine Demetroulakos, Gwen Kozlowski, Louise Saulnier-Andrews, Lisa FitzGerald Wagner

DONATIONS IN MEMORY OF Elinor Lynch
Mr. and Mrs. David W. Aldrich
Mr. Nathan D. Aldrich
Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Busa
Ms. Jacquelyn Cefola
Ms. Anne T. Desteefano
Mr. Robert H. Eremain
Mr. Joseph P. Fallon
Ms. Elizabeth Haines
Charlotte & Michel LaPierre Charitable Fund
Mr. and Mrs. HP Weber

RENEWING MEMBERS

BOLD = Please support those businesses that support us!
* = new members
+ = Annual Fund Donors

Renewing Members $500+
Jeanne D’Arc Credit Union
Gururaj & Jaishree Deshpande
Lowell Sun Charities
Richard & Nancy Donahue
Charitable Trust

Renewing Members $250+
Behrakis Foundation,
Centennial Island Hydroelectric Company,
Evan Coravos D.M.D., P. C., Mrs. Richard Emmet, Thomas & Heather Kirwin, Edward & Sarah Krupels, High School, Mill City Environmental, Donald Pearson, Johanna Bohan Riley, Nicola Tsongas and Watermark

Renewing Members $100-$249

Renewing Members $50-$99

RENEWING MEMBERS
Newt & Janet Akashian, Jo Anne Albright, Simone Allard, Bernadette & Mike Baird, Mr. & Mrs. Curtis B Barton, Eleanor Belanger, Joshua Belkin, Albert E.J. Bergeron Insurance, Mary Blazon*, Carlos & Lidia Borges, Christine & Jonathan Boyd, Christine Brown, Judith Buchanan, (cont. p. 4)
Is your membership current?
Please see your address label.

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
☐ Jollene Dubner Park
☐ Spalding House Fund
☐ Hawk Valley Farm
☐ Liberty Park
☐ Kittredge Park

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

☐ $500 ☐ $250 ☐ $100 ☐ $50 ☐ $25 ☐ $ _______

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 2017

Give the Gift of Adventure

White Water Rafting Gift Certificates

White water rafting gift certificates for our 2018 season are available for the holidays and other occasions. Award-winning adventure right in your backyard.

(978) 934-0030
info@LowellLandTrust.org

Raft the Class III & IV rapids of the Concord River!

Fall Foliage Hike on the Wall

Hike the Great Wall along the Northern Canal Walkway

Saturday, November 18, 2017
10AM - 2PM

This ranger-led 3-mile round trip walk will start at the Boott Mills, venture to the Spalding House where you enjoy a brown bag lunch and join in our Annual Meeting presentation, then head back to Boott Mills.

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

www.LowellLandTrust.org

LP&CT Board of Directors

Brian Chapman
Christine Cole (Treas.)
Matthew C. Donahue, Esq.
Jonathan Geer
Sheila Kirschbaum (Clerk)
Christine McCall
Jamie O’Hearn
Dr. Mark Romanowsky (Pres.)
Sopheap Theam

Jane L. Calvin, Executive Director
Leigh Cameron, Environmental Educator
Kathy Hibour, Environmental Educator
Emily McDermott, Stewardship & Education Manager
Bora Poun, Environmental Educator

Printed on recycled paper