



6.59 ACRES DONATED IN EAST SANDWICH THE CARLETON PRESERVE Early this year the SCT made contact with East Sandwich native Joy Carleton, who had a “land problem”, and we were able to help! Joy had inherited 6.59 acres of upland and wetland that had been in her family since 1947. The lot was found to be unbuildable, and she no longer wished to pay taxes on land she couldn’t use. SCT trustee Cliff Irving happened to be doing some plumbing at her house and got into a conversation about the land. Naturally, Cliff mentioned that the SCT could accept the parcel as a gift, and after learning a bit more about the SCT the idea made sense to her. Things “clicked into place”, as it were, and a deed was recorded on June 14th.



New fencing and a pastoral scene at the Osborne-Sherman Conservation Lands

The Carleton Preserve is located on Great Marsh Road, south of Old County Road and Howland Lane, right on the Barnstable line, with the railroad as its southern boundary. There was once a small house here, dating from the 1850s. The parcel is heavily wooded, with a small pond in the middle, and cranberry bogs to the north and west. It has excellent potential for a trail system, which the SCT will begin planning soon. An additional benefit is that the piece is adjacent to the .69 acre Great Marsh Road Preserve, a gift of Michael and Elizabeth Dunning in 2010.

We thank Joy for her wonderful gift. By naming it the Carleton Preserve, we can honor Joy’s generosity and also her interesting and public-spirited family, who have lived in East Sandwich since 1881.



SCT President John N. Cullity with Joy Carleton after the deed signing.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE Greetings, with wishes for a pleasant fall and a mild winter! This newsletter describes the activity of one of the busiest of our 31 years of existence. That's good – we're growing and fulfilling our purpose. We would love to have more members, however, and of course more funding, so please be sure you renew with the enclosed envelope. Also, please consider asking your "nature" friends if they would consider joining. Point them to our website, preserves, and mention our spring and fall guided walks – they are free and always a good social time.

The SCT currently has 224 acres in preservation, 140 acres of which are privately owned properties held in conservation restrictions. Five SCT preserves have trail systems, and we have several parcels on which we will be developing trails in the coming years; perhaps you would like to volunteer for trail work – let us know. Supporting and volunteering for a conservation trust is an excellent way to contribute to the quality of life on Cape Cod. In addition to habitat preservation for wildlife, preservation of water quality and scenic views, conservation lands offer you the tangible benefit of finding peace and quiet, and healthful recreation.

Thank you for your support and interest.

~ *John Cullity*

2016 SCT ANNUAL MEETING OCTOBER 16TH SCT members and the public are invited to our annual meeting October 16th, Sunday, 2 PM at the East Sandwich Grange Hall, 91 Old County Rd. The business meeting occupies the first half hour. Our guest speaker is Bradford C. Chase of the Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries. He is the project leader of the Diadromous Fish Biology and Management Project. He will speak on "The Diadromous Fish Runs of American Eel and River Herring on Cape Cod". Animal migrations, in this case fish, are always fascinating, and Brad is the man to answer any questions you have about eels and herring, two species well associated with Cape Cod.

OFFICERS AND TRUSTEES 2016-17

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THE SANDWICH CONSERVATION TRUST is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization founded in 1985, and staffed by volunteers. The Trust's purpose is to preserve and maintain wood lands, meadows, wetlands, wildlife habitats and scenic views for the public. The trust acquires land by gift or purchase and manages the properties using sound environmental practices. Other goals of the SCT are to assist landowners desiring to preserve their property through the use of conservation restrictions, to educate the public about land preservation, and to stimulate a public conscience on land use.

Online at www.sandwichconservationtrust.org

A SUCCESSFUL APPEAL FOR THE OSBORNE-SHERMAN CONSERVATION LANDS

Last December, after several months of planning and permitting, we had a modest but attractive parking area created at the Osborne-Sherman Preserve at 15 Gully Lane. This beautiful 2 acre field was bequeathed to the SCT by Constance S. Crowell in 2006. It was a part of her beloved 26 acre home known as “The Mowings”, which included a stable for her horses, and 20 acres of ocean view pasture. Connie named the gift to the SCT after her two grandfathers’ last names.

Upon completion of the parking area, our board discussions indicated a desire for two more important improvements: the need to delineate our preserve from neighboring lands, and the need to control certain invasive plants that were taking over the field. In April we sent out an appeal for funds to put up split rail fencing and closer, more frequent mowing to discourage the poison ivy, bittersweet and multiflora rose. We received a wonderful response from our members, who donated a total of \$4,140, enough to fence two sides of the parcel and fund the mowing. We deeply appreciate Connie’s gift and the generosity of our members.



WAKEBY PRESERVE TRANSFERRED TO THE NATIVE LAND CONSERVANCY In the conservation trust world, we normally hear about land acquisitions being received or purchased from a private land owner. The SCT did something a little different last year by donating land to another preservation organization, the Native Land Conservancy, Inc. The NLC was formed in 2012 by Wampanoag leader and historian Ramona Peters, and it is the first native-led land trust east of the Mississippi. The NLC seeks to preserve land in Eastern Massachusetts in a manner that considers native history and culture, as well as habitat value

Upon hearing of the first land donation to the NLC, 1.4 acres on Shoot Flying Hill in Barnstable, an idea occurred to SCT president John N. Cullity, who is interested in Native American history. The SCT owned a small but picturesque preserve with a beautiful view of Wakeby Lake that seemed appropriate to transfer to the NLC. The SCT received the .3 acre Wakeby Preserve in 1999 from a bank settling the estate of Kathryn H. Ryder, who once lived in the neighborhood with her husband Malcolm, a cranberry grower. “Wakeby” is one of the few Indian names retained in Sandwich; Shawme, Scorton and Meuset being the others. The SCT board voted to transfer the preserve to the NLC to honor the native name, place, and people. At a small on-site ceremony in December 2015, Ramona Peters presented Cullity with a piece of polished wampum as a gift of friendship in exchange.

The NLC board consists of Native Americans, but anyone can join the organization. The SCT was pleased to help the NLC and wishes them the very best in their endeavor.



*At the Wakeby Preserve in December 2015
L to R: Mark Robinson of the Compact of Cape Cod
Conservation Trusts, Leslie Jonas, NLC; John Cullity,
SCT; Ramona Peters, NLC;
Bob O'Connor, Peter Thomas, SCT.*

WATERFRONT LOT DONATED IN FORESTDALE Thanks to the generosity of H. William Moore of Boston and his daughter Carla Anne Moore, a picturesque bit of Forestdale will remain as it is for wildlife and passers-by. In February the SCT received a deed to a .7 acre lot at 6 Country Farm Rd., off Snake Pond Road. The land is nicely wooded with some sizable white pines, young beeches and other native trees, and has 150 feet of frontage on a small, unnamed pond. Adjacent to the lot is a similar parcel owned by the national Wildlife Federation, so a bit of road side “green belt” has been preserved. We thank the Moores for their thoughtfulness and generosity.



*Sign installation crew
at the Moore Preserve
L to R: Bob O'Connor,
Cliff Irving,
Joe Queenan*



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TRUSTEE NEWS Early in the year we said goodbye to our treasurer for seven years, Sarah Marter. She purchased a home in Florida and sold her house in Sandwich. She did a wonderful job with our treasury and was active and helpful as a trustee. We wish her the best in her new environment. Thank you, Sarah!

We conducted a search for a new treasurer, and found Monique Szechenyi, a long-time resident of Sandwich Village with nonprofit experience, and she has effectively and cheerfully embraced the job. In the process, we found that one of our members, John Juros of East Sandwich, was interested in serving as a trustee. His election will occur at our upcoming annual meeting. Welcome Monique and John.

We recently learned that Bob Sprague, a former SCT trustee for 11 years, had died. We met Bob in 1994, when he donated 4.86 acres west of Plowed Neck Road, named Elinor's Woods, in memory of his beloved wife who died in 1986. Bob, retired as a metallurgist in the aerospace industry, soon joined us as a trustee, and served as clerk until 2006 when he moved to Florida. Bob was always energetic and helpful. He put in a lot of time as a volunteer for the Thornton W. Burgess Society, helping to clean up the East Sandwich Game Farm Preserve. We offer our condolences to his children, Kathleen Grant and Tom Sprague, who still live in Sandwich.

We gratefully acknowledge receipt of Memorial donations for Bob from the following: Frank & Cathy Mezzacappa, MA; Alex Lutsky, NH; Donald Sprague, CT; Carolyn Sprague, NH; Eleanor C. Winslow, MA; Edward Young, CT; and Ralph T. Wood, CT, who has offered to help fund a memorial bench for Bob in Elinor's Woods.

NEW MEMBERS The SCT welcomes new members Charles Huntley and William & Marjorie Collins, all of Sandwich.

SANDWICH CONSERVATION TRUST
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This 1985 aerial shows part of Spring Hill Village. In the lower right is the corner of “The Mowings” conveyed to the SCT in 2007 by the Constance S. Crowell trust of 1992. ~ John N. Cullity photo