



# Cumberland Land Trust

Annual Newsletter 2010 Number 20

*Sponsor of the Rhode Island Land Trust Council and the Land Trust Alliance*

**Mission Statement:** *The Cumberland Land Trust is a private, nonprofit corporation formed for the benefit of all the residents of the Town of Cumberland. Its purpose is to preserve some of the natural resources of Cumberland for present and future generations including streams, ponds, wetlands, open space working farms, scenic and natural sites, and historically significant properties, as well as indigenous plant and animal life.*

## **Bluebird Habitat Enlarged**



The field at High Rock Farm has been made twice its size by the elimination of the Asian invasive shrub Autumn Olive *Elaeagnus umbellata*. The small tree spreads rapidly with red berries in the Fall. Habitat loss threatening the once common eastern bluebird, has initiated this effort.

Thanks to our stewards Dave Gumbley, Frank Matta, Randy Tuomisto and Mike Boday.



## **Greenways Help to Prevent Floods**

### ***Protecting Open Space Land Provides a Benefit to Our Community***

Undeveloped land helps control flooding during heavy rains like that which Rhode Island has just experienced. Flood damage can be averted by preserving land to create buffer zones and water recharge areas along rivers, streams, and creeks, preventing flash floods and keeping pollutants to a minimum. Promoting smart growth and green planning designs can help prevent the construction of impermeable surfaces in critical areas where millions of cubic feet of rainwater become polluted runoff. A significant amount of rainwater is lost annually to storage for our water supply because of increases in the amount of paved impervious surfaces.

Land that has been developed creates *impervious surfaces* causing contaminated water runoff and erosion of soils. Structures such as houses and buildings, driveways, parking lots and paved roads are such impervious surfaces and do not allow the natural flow of water back into the soil. The water is funneled into small areas causing overflows and much damage. When the balance is tipped in favor of development, bad things happen.

*Greenways are unbroken chains of preserved open space surrounding stream corridors, headwaters, water recharge areas and significant ecosystems.* Building and protecting greenways is important for several reasons. Contiguous properties provide better protection for streams, ponds and other waterways. Contiguous open space is better at recharging more rainwater into our underground aquifers. Creating bands or swathes of protected open space is an effective smart growth tool, creating natural green barriers against unchecked sprawl.

***Support Cumberland Land Trust's Land Acquisition Fund through your membership dues and charitable donations.***

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Wine Tasting Social, November 2009 Host: Cumberland Land Trust / Venue Blackstone River Theater



### 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Wine Tasting Fundraiser----A Success!

The Blackstone River Theatre was the scene of the Land Trust's Wine Tasting fundraiser held on Friday November 20. A record 165 tickets were sold and netted was a profit of \$3,420. Many thanks to *Mendon Wines & More* of 2170 Mendon Road in Cumberland and store manager, TJ Seaton who, along with his crew, donated the array of fine wines and participated in the event. Land Trust co-chairs Kelley Stone Gardner, Deborah Rodin and ticket taker Ann McCaffrey helped to make the evening a great success. Kelley and Deb raffled off more than twenty gift baskets. Thanks to the Board and spouses for pitching in to help.



### Capital Gains Tax Changes in RI

Beginning in 2010, Rhode Island will tax your profit the same as it taxes wages, bank account interest or other ordinary income. Taxpayers will pay between 3.75 percent and 9.9 percent. The previous rate was 0.83 to 1.67 percent. This affects all sorts of assets you wish to sell such as stock, shares, homes and land.

### A Plan That Avoids Paying Capital Gains Tax

People often own real estate that has appreciated in value over time and selling the real estate results in a capital gains tax reducing the value of the proceeds. Why not consider making a charitable gift of the property. The land trust receives full value of the asset. You can contribute the appreciated property outright to the Cumberland Land Trust, a 501c3 charitable organization, and avoid the capital gains. Generally, you are able to deduct the appraised fair market value of the gift up to 30% of your adjusted gross income in the year the gift was made. If the gift exceeds that amount, you can carry forward the excess contribution for five additional years. Consult your tax preparer, attorney or advisor. *Contact the Cumberland Land Trust if you wish to make a gift of your land and still enjoy tax savings.*

## High Rock Farm Selected by BOTANY 2010 Conference as Field Trip



**Caulophyllum thalictroides**, *Blue Cohosh*. Divided leaves with yellow-green flowers on a branched stalk. Grows in rich woods. Rare.

The Botany 2010 Annual Conference will take place this year in Providence RI from July 31 to August 4. The joint meeting of leading scientific societies will include the Botany Society of America, American Fern Society, the Byrological and Lichen Society, and American Society of Plant Taxonomists. High Rock Farm Preserve is to be featured as a full day field trip for attendees of the conference. Field trips are organized to visit areas of botanical interest in the areas around he meeting.

Tom Rawinski, a botanist at USDA Forest Service is the organizer of

the High Rock field trip along with leaders Kathy Barton and Francis Underwood, Rhode Island botanists, and creators of the website *Among Rhode Island Wildflowers*. [www.AmongRhodeIslandWildflowers.org](http://www.AmongRhodeIslandWildflowers.org)



**Sanguinaria canadensis**, *Bloodroot* Large leaves unfurl around stem in early spring, grows in colonies. Rare.

**High Rock Farm is described:** “Over 400 species of plants have been recorded in the unusually rich habitats of this important conservation area in Cumberland, with 20 listed species and many others uncommon to southeastern New England. There is something for everyone here, including ferns, lichens, and a wealth of flowering plants.”

### Tiffany & Co. Community Service Donation



Stewardship team members **Bonnie and Michael Caldarella** of Old West Wrentham Rd. have designated \$1500 to CLT as part of the 2009 Tiffany & Co. Community Service Program. Michael, an employee of Tiffany at Highland Corporate Park in Cumberland, performed 100 hours of community service to the Land Trust. Through the employees program, each hour is matched by \$15 to local non-profit charitable organizations an increase from last year's contribution of \$10 per hour. Michael and Bonnie have maintained the many public trails of

land trust preserves since 2001 as well as other land management responsibilities. Michael is a trained arborist. The donation will be used for stewardship purposes as requested by the Caldarellas. This is their third community service donation from Tiffany & Co. *Thank you for all that you do!*

### **New Members 2009-2010**

#### *Friend*

Ron & Elaine Emery  
William and Jennifer George

#### *Associate*

Kerri and David Deacon

#### *Family*

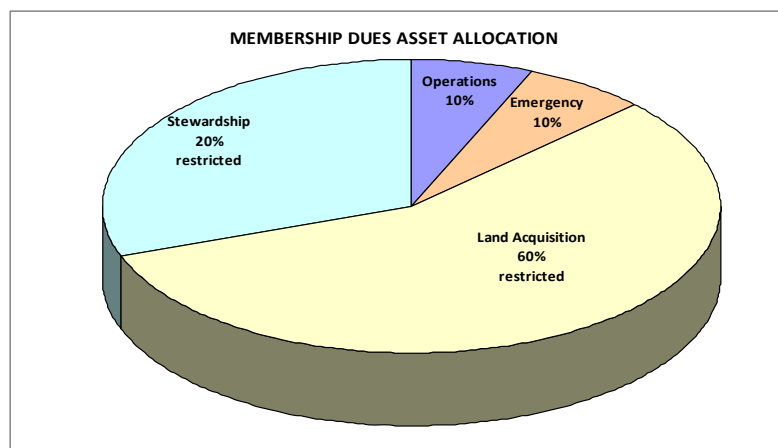
David and Mark Dubosky  
James and Erica Sanzi

#### *Individual*

Theona Beauchemin  
John and Jane Berthiaume  
Christine Deacon  
Ronald Froment  
Dorothy Marciniak

#### *Endowment*

Richard & Anastasia Beaupre  
Glen & Donna Bruno  
Paul & Lynn D'Adamo  
Colin Kane  
Gregory Richards  
Gregory & Lois Matta



**2009 End of Year Appeal  
for Stewardship. Total \$2915.  
Thanks to our generous  
supporters trail work has  
begun on Burlingame**

\$500  
Rafael Gracia  
\$250  
Bud Winter  
\$150  
Karen & Michael DelPonte  
\$100  
Irene & Walter Dusza  
Barbara & Grant Gray  
Alan Hecht  
William LaCivita  
Joe & Rachel Pailthorpe  
Neil & Deb Rodin  
Karen & Stephen Saucier  
James & Sally Terry  
Irene Tuchapsky  
Randy & Mary Tuomisto  
\$50  
Helen Austin  
Bill and Jennifer George  
Elaine Hill

Sheila & Ron Koback  
Pam & Bill Martin  
Jason & Nyssa Mundy  
\$40  
Dolores Arsenault  
\$35  
Anthony & Laurilyn Cannistra  
George Gettinger  
Steve & Mari Herrick  
Diane Proctor  
Scott Welton  
\$25  
Elizabeth Allen  
Walter Bosse  
Nancy Wegimont  
\$20  
Theona Beauchemin  
Marie Veins  
\$10  
Joan Macaulay  
Peter & Barbara Lannigan

Cumberland Beagle Club  
Cumberland Conservation Commission  
Cumberland Garden Club  
Cumberland Lincoln Rotary  
Dean Warehouse Services  
Emmanuel Episcopal Church  
George Gettinger DMD  
Gifford Design Group  
Ice Cream Machine  
Jezard Carpets Bridgewater  
Jungle Junction  
Albert Kandarian Jr., CLU, ChFC/  
John Hancock Financial Network  
Kirkbrae Properties Lincoln  
Kelley Stone Gardner REMAX  
Lockey & Pierce CPA  
TH Malloy Biofuels  
EA McNulty Real Estate Group  
Mendon Fine Wines & More  
Navigant Credit Union  
New Dawn Earth Center  
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Triple M Productions  
Valley Breeze Publishing

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Smithfield

**Board News**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Mike Boday	333-5733	333 Nate Whipple Highway
Alice Clemente	723-8828	PO Box 7771
Kelley Stone Gardner	334-0034	4 White Pine Drive
Dave Gumbley	658-5093	17 Stillwater Drive
Michael Joyal	333-3553	185 Scott Road
Frank Matta	334-5003	230 Little Pond County Rd.
Ann McCaffrey	334-4643	27 Will Croft St.
Joe Pailthorpe	658-1766	56 Old West Wrentham Rd.
Karen Saucier	333-3858	23 Thompson Hill Rd.
Randy Tuomisto	334-8322	411 Reservoir Rd.



OFFICERS Secretary Randy Tuomisto; Treasurer Joe Pailthorpe;  
Vice President Ann McCaffrey; President Karen Saucier

**Welcome to the Board!**



**Michael Joyal** of 185 Scott Road, was born and raised in Woonsocket. He is 43 years old, married to Sharon, and has a two year old daughter Hope. He is a Senior Inventory Analyst for EMC Corp. in Franklin, MA, where he has been employed for 18 years. In 2001 Michael purchased the 15 acres of private land located within the Land Trust's High Rock Farm on Scott Road. He moved to Cumberland after completing construction of a solar powered house on the property in 2004. In 2009 Michael and Sharon donated a portion of their land to High Rock Preserve which now totals 72.35 acres. Michael says, "Both Sharon and I feel it is extremely important to

protect our natural resources and preserve them for future generations - a belief that is congruous with the stated mission of the CLT. We feel that the work of the Land Trust is vital, especially in this part of the country so heavily developed with greenspace at a premium. I look forward to working as a director with the CLT!"

*Thank you for renewing your annual 2009 membership. If you have not renewed for 2010, your personal membership form is included in this mailing. Please give as generously as you can.  
Thank you for your support!*

*Printing Courtesy of Navigant Credit Union*