



2013 Annual Report

TIVERTON LAND TRUST

A Non-Profit RI Corporation

Preserving the rural character and scenic beauty of Tiverton for generations to come

VISION/MISSION

Protect Land in Perpetuity

- Open space
- Agriculture
- Wildlife habitat

Educate & Inform

- the Community of the benefits of protecting open space, agriculture, and wildlife habitat
- younger generations to appreciate the rural nature, environment, and ecology of the area
- property owners of tax strategies and advantages to provide open space and/or conservation easements

VALUES

- Commitment to the public good
- Responsible stewardship of resources
- National Land Trust Alliance member
 - Adopted LTA Standards & Practices
- Recognition of the trust placed in us by our donors, landowner partners and the public by being fiscally responsible
- Effective partner with government, private, and other non-profit organizations

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Constance Lima, President
Christine Ryan, Vice President
John Foley, Treasurer Sue Thayer-Kramers, Secretary
Wayne Browning Richard D'Addario
Mike Shand Trish Sylvester Nancy Weinstein

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Leonard Chace, III Louise Durfee Stetson Eddy
Garry Plunkett Thomas Rodgers, III Allen Smith (d)
Mary Wehle James Weir (d)

THE YEAR IN REVIEW



Another busy year for TLT. One of the important benefits of producing an Annual Report is capturing the major developments of the year. Sometimes, we get caught up in the weeds and we forget the specific work and accomplishments that have been made in twelve short months. The process of looking back on the year of our organizational work affords an opportunity to examine the chronological history of activities but also its accomplishments. The TLT received a grant from the Norcross Foundation for purchasing computer equipment to help ease our workload – perfect timing as we were in the midst of preparing our application for accreditation.

TLT's Accreditation Committee, headed by Mike Shand, met frequently throughout the year documenting TLT's policies and procedures in order to meet the accreditation standards of the national Land Trust Alliance. In the fall, a conference call was held between TLT's Accreditation Committee and the Land Trust Commission. The final application was sent to the Commission by the end of 2013. Spoiler Alert: The TLT received notification of earning the seal of accreditation just as this report was going to press.

In 2013, after interviewing a number of landscape architects, TLT selected Bradford Associates, a well-established landscape architectural firm, to design a master concept plan for Highland Woods, sixteen acres which abut Fort Barton Woods. The Rhode Island Foundation, through the Newport County Fund, awarded TLT a \$10,000 grant in June



THE YEAR IN REVIEW

of 2012 to support our design plans for Highland Woods. By the end of 2013, we had reached 84% of our funding goal for the Highland Woods Campaign. TLT Board members along with Tiverton Open Space Commission members, met with Bradford Associates last fall to discuss ideas and thoughts for a connecting trail to Fort Barton Woods and ways to impart information to the visiting public about the role Tiverton played at this site during the Revolutionary War.



Sadly, TLT lost two members of its Advisory Board, James Weir and Allen Smith. Jim was a great friend and devotee of land preservation work. He was always gracious and generous with his time. We were especially grateful to him for making the Meeting House available for TLT events providing a beautiful Colonial setting. Allen was one of the founders of TLT devoting much time in the early days to its financial stability. He began the arduous task of restoring the Pardon Gray Family Cemetery. The project was years in the making. During Pardon Gray Day-2013, a tribute to Allen was given with his family and descendants of the Pardon Gray family in attendance. Both men gave generously to TLT. Their friendship and support of our work will be sorely missed.

In early December, the Boards of TLT, Sakonnet Preservation Association (Little Compton), and Aquidneck Land Trust, met at the Meeting House to discuss regional collaboration. The evening was organized by Rupert Friday of the RI Land Trust Council.

Lively discussions captured the activity of the three land trusts and the possible ways we can each facilitate each other's work as well as collaborate and share potential staff.

Connie Lima, *President*



THE YEAR IN REVIEW



2013 HIGHLIGHTS

Land Protection

- Master concept plan developed for Highland Woods (with Tiverton Open Space Commission)

Property Management/Improvements

- Introduction of rotational grazing project in collaboration with Geoff Beresford
- Construction and placement of bat house at Pardon Gray Preserve (PGP)
- Fence removed from the historic garden area at PGP (with help from the Tiverton Garden Club)
- Students from the Youth Conservation League volunteered a day's work to remove invasives at Highland Woods
- Bird nesting survey of birds and nesting habits at PGP completed by Rachel Farrell, bird surveyor
- Loop trail was cut into Highland Woods
- Seed heads were removed from invasive Phragmites plants at PGP

Community Forum

- “Management of Intensive Rotational Grazing as a Strategy for Open Space Stewardship” with Geoff Beresford of Beresford of Tiverton ~ April 21st

Special Events and Community Outreach

- Full Moon Walk at Basket Swamp ~ January 27th
- Pardon Gray Day ~ September 21st
- Plaque Dedication to Allen Smith at the Gray Family cemetery on the PGP ~ September 21st
- Basket Swamp Walk ~ November 3rd

Grants and Awards

- R.I. Foundation
- Norcross Wildlife Foundation

Conference Participation

- Land and Water Conservation Summit – University of Rhode Island

Changes to TLT Board of Directors

- Mike Shand, *Vice-President*
- Carmen Grinkis, *New Board Member*
- Ginny Eagan, *Resigned*
- Two members of the TLT Advisory Committee, Allen Smith and Jim Weir, passed away in 2013 (see President's letter)

NEWS & THANKS

NEW BOARD MEMBER: CARMEN GRINKIS

Drawn to the unique mix of farmland and water, Carmen and her life partner, Kathrine Lovell, moved to Tiverton three years ago. She was raised in Sterling Mass, home of “Mary had a Little Lamb” (really) surrounded by apple orchards and hay fields overlooking Wachusett Mountain. The neighboring woods, orchards and streams intertwined to create a wide open home for exploration, fishing for trout, hay fort construction and sledding under bright starlit skies. Although remaining in pockets, Sterling's farmland has disappeared, apple orchards uprooted and replaced with the clearer defined boundaries of the suburban maze. She has joined the TLT knowing the importance of preserving the natural places to both lose and find yourself—again. Carmen has a background in clinical psychology and has her own financial planning practice. She enjoys boating, golfing, fishing and breathing in the fresh salty Tiverton air.



Carmen Grinkis



Thank You to Ginny Eagan who has served on the TLT Board of Directors since 2009. Despite the large number of volunteer activities she commits to each year, Ginny managed to help out the TLT—particularly when we undertook the time-consuming and exhaustive work of having a major fundraiser. Ginny's experience in fundraising and event planning proved extremely useful in preparing, organizing, and executing the Land Trust's major events. The attention to detail, questioning the direction to take, and suggesting alternatives are hallmarks of Ginny's thoughtful approach to an issue.

2013 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

OPERATION ACCOUNT

Income		
Memberships	Membership Contributions	\$ 44,440.00
Donations	General Donations; Memorials; Honorariums	\$ 4,860.00
Grants	LTA, RI Foundation	\$ 8,408.53
Fund Raising Events	Pardon Gray Day	\$ 13,815.50
Restricted Funds		-
Interest & Dividends		\$ 249.27
Total Income		\$ 71,773.30
Expenses		
Office & Operations	Phone, Postage, Fees, Rent, Insurance, Office Equipment, CPA	\$ 19,509.79
Governance	Workshops, Retreat & Consulting Fees	\$ 12,915.52
Public Outreach	Newsletters, Reports, Events, Publicity, Website, Fundraising	\$ 11,920.85
Property Management	Maintenance, Monitoring, Improvements, Equipment, Tools	\$ 12,589.16
Property Acquisition	Appraisals, Analyses, Surveys, Title Work, Documentation	\$ -
Total Expenses		\$ 56,935.32
Net for Year		\$ 14,837.98
End of Year Balance		
	Unrestricted Funds	\$ 116,678.86
	Temporarily Restricted Funds	\$ 13,191.38
Total		\$ 129,870.24

LAND ACQUISITION ACCOUNT

Income		
Donations	Donations, Campaign Contributions	\$ 23,280.00
Interest, Dividends		\$ 791.75
Total Income		\$ 24,071.75
Expenses		
Property Acquisition		\$ -
Total Expenses		\$ -
Net for Year		\$ 24,071.75
End of Year Balance		
	Unrestricted Funds	\$ 157,000.00
	Temporarily Restricted Funds	\$ 89,763.85
Total		\$ 246,763.85

STEWARDSHIP ACCOUNT

Income		
Donations		\$ 1,000.00
Interest, Dividends		\$ 70.81
Total Income		\$ 1,070.81
Expenses		
Stewardship		\$ 77.28
Special	Donation transferred to RI Foundation TLT Fund	\$ 1,000.00
Total Expenses		\$ 1,077.28
Net for Year		\$ (6.47)
End of Year Balance		
	Temporarily Restricted Funds	\$ 28,167.31

OTHER FINANCIAL ASSETS

Tiverton Land Trust Fund - Market Value as of 12/31/13	Held & Managed by RI Foundation - Principal Protected. Yearly grants used strictly for property management expenses.	\$ 142,433.66
Land Acquisition Grants	None currently open.	\$ -

LIABILITIES

	Currently none	\$ -
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This financial statement is subject to reviews by the Tiverton Land Trust's Finance committee and by an independent CPA, which are in progress.

2013 MEMBERS AND DONORS – THANK YOU!

Anonymous (10)	John & Phoebe Cook	Mr. Stuart Hardy
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Donald Clay	John Gwynne	James Lima
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2013 MEMBERS AND DONORS – THANK YOU!

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Mrs. Arthur R. Poutray		
Jim & Rose Probasco		

Calendar Year 2013 Contributors

2013 MEMBERS AND DONORS – THANK YOU!



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Land Trust Alliance
 Natural Resources Conservation Service
 RI Department of Environmental Management
 Rodgers Family Foundation
 The George L. Shinn and Clara S. Shinn Foundation
 The Nature Conservancy

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American Classic Real Estate
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 BayCoast Bank
 The Boathouse Restaurant
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 Lapointe Insurance Services
 Law Offices Robert H. Humphrey
 Paquin Insurance Agency
 Sakonnet Veterinary Hospital, LLC
 Textron Matching Gift Program
 Tom's Lawn & Garden
 Viti, Inc.

Honoraria

In Honor of Suzanne Bravender:
 Linda & Bill Jenkins
 In Honor of Len & Jay Chace:
 Ira Chace
 In Honor of Mr. & Mrs. J. Prewitt Wehle:
 Amy Wehle & Russell Billings

Memorial Gifts

In Memory of Janice Bond:
 Alex Bond
 In Memory of Allen W. Ellis:
 Mrs. JoEllen Hunt
 Mary Lyons
 In Memory of Raymond Joubert:
 Mrs. Raymond Joubert
 In Memory of Donald H. Lake:
 Mrs. Ethel M. Lake
 In Memory of Truong T. "Rose" Mason:
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 In Memory of Gertrude J. Ouellette:
 Elizabeth Ouellette-Maltby
 In Memory of Allen Smith:
 Colin & Marlene L. Robinson
 Sakonnet Veterinary Hospital, LLC
 Patricia A. Sullivan
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 Ray & Nancy Lundgren
 Amy Wehle & Russell Billings
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Tiverton, RI 02878

401-625-1300

www.tivertonlandtrust.org

SAVE THE DATES:

Sunday, April 27th at 3 pm.
Christian M. McBurney presenting

*Tiverton in the
Revolutionary War*

The Meeting House
3850 Main Road, Tiverton

Saturday, September 13th
Pardon Gray Day
at Pardon Gray Preserve

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