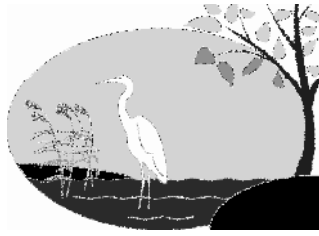


# HOPKINTON AREA LAND TRUST INC.

# NEWSLETTER



**Volume XXXVIII, Fall**

**September 2013**

*A Word from the President*  
**David Goldman**

The cool fall nights are upon us and school is open once again. Since my last letter much has happened and it is very exciting news. **First, the Trust along with Sudbury Valley Trustees were the recipients of the Fruit Street open space Conservation Restriction (CR)(146 acres) after 10 years of work; second, the Trust was the recipient of the Phipps Woods open space CR (12.27 acres); third, the Trust was the recipient of the Braden Wood open Space CR (7.79 acres); and finally, the Open Space Preservation Commission voted to vest the Trust with the Conservation Restriction for the Cameron/Whisper Way Open Space (132 acres).** That brings the total acreage under protection, either owned or under Conservation Restriction to approximately 1,000 acres. Further, we hope to have the Open Space, and place a CR on, the Ploquin Estates property sometime before the end of this year. If you live near any one of these properties and would like to **volunteer as a land-steward** please, give me a call, we need your help. **Being a steward is an easy job; walk the land, observe, take a few pictures and report finding, a minimum of once a year.**

The Geocaching program for our trails and properties continues to be extremely popular. The Trust now has geocaches on the following properties/trails: **Whitehall Conservation Area (WCA) (GC34KJH, N 42° 14.142 W 071° 34.299); Karl Mighton Trail (KMT) (GC34X6Q, N 42° 13.085 W 071° 28.333); Deer Run, Andersen's Trail (DRT) (GC34X5Y, N 42° 14.870 W 071° 29.895), Wiley Woods Trail (WWT) (GC3YKRN N 42° 14.607 W 071° 29.207), Sands Trail (DST) (GC3YKV2 N 42° 14.738 W 071° 32.918), the Center Trail (CT) (GC4BJ6D N 42° 13.158 W 071° 31.619) and Highlands I/Zettek Overlook (GC3YKV2 N 42° 15.076 W 071° 32.959)** Since the last reporting the Trust has had 172 visits to these locations. This program is doing what the Trust intended, getting folks out on our trails. We are planning a few more caches this year.

It appears that economic times are improving, but, the economic future is still an uncertain. The Trusts' open space in town provides some very real benefits. It provides space open to you and your family for your fun and enjoyment. Also, by maintaining the open space, the Trust is helping to preserve and increase the value of your property in Hopkinton and maintain the rural character of the town. **We are closing in on 1000 acres of open space land in Trust ownership or under Conservation restriction**, which provides for the preservation of that rural character we all want in Hopkinton. We are at the beginning of the fall season and if you enjoy the use of the open space please remember to **help support the Trust, by becoming a member or making a tax deductible donation**, so that we can continue to provide this value to you the residents. So have some fun, get outdoors and enjoy nature's wonders. Find a geo-cache, take a walk in the Trust properties, welcome home.

Very truly: *David Goldman*, President

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# **HOPKINTON AREA LAND TRUST INC.**

## **HALT SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS 2013**

By Gail Clifford

The Hopkinton Area Land Trust Board of Directors is pleased to award scholarships to two graduating Hopkinton High School seniors, Leah Raczynski and Stephannie Bell-Chapin.

Leah Raczynski, who will attend Boston University this fall, plans to explore the many aspects of an Environmental Science major before deciding which path to follow. She states that she has always had a passion for the natural world and community service. But only after taking a summer job working with environmental scientists and completing the work necessary to enroll in Advanced Placement Environmental Science in her senior year did she become interested in the scientific and technical aspects of the environmental sciences. She thanks HALT “for its dedication to the advancement of students who show interest in such needed areas as environmental science, conservation, and community service”.

Stephannie Bell-Chapin plans to attend Becker College this fall. Her interests lie within the animal kingdom, and she plans to obtain the education necessary to train service dogs, particularly pit bulls. She hopes that this will help “to break the stereotype of pit bulls” and allow them to become one of the major breeds used for service dogs, particularly in the psychiatric field.

HALT supports the ambitions of both these young women and wishes them well in their chosen careers. We applaud their intention to remain environmentally aware and to work in careers that help to sustain nature and its benefits to the community at large.

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## **CIVILIAN CONSERVATION CORPS 1933 – 1944 CELEBRATES 80<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY**

By Mavis O’Leary

On Saturday, July 13, 2013 an anniversary party, celebrating the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) was held on the grounds of the Upton State Forest. The event was the joint effort of two groups, the MA Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) and the Friends of Upton State Forest (FUSF).

Ms. Priscilla Geigis, DCR-MassParks Director, and Mistress of Ceremonies, summarized CCC history in her

statement, “Eighty years later, the work of the CCC still forms the cornerstone of the state parks as we know them today. Roads, ponds, forest plantations and recreational facilities built by the CCC can be found in every region of the state”. This statement sums up the legacy of CCC in Massachusetts and nationally.

Posters mounted on stakes lined the walk from the presentation tent area to the display of primitive tools, an original CCC pick-up work truck and the cottage which once served as CCC Infirmary. The posters depicted advertisements of “Life in 1933”. Several of these showed items of popular culture, family life, nightly radio programs, technological progress such as rotary dial phone and women’s’ fashions. Other posters portrayed a grimmer view of Life in 1933 which showed “No Work, No Money”, Americans without jobs who were willing to do any kind of work to make money to buy a meal and pay rent, “Nature in Trouble” which showed devastated and burned forest lands.

In 1933 Franklin Delano Roosevelt succeeded Herbert Hoover as President of the United States. President Roosevelt proposed a series of ideas, named the “New Deal”, to bring the country out of its economic depression and put people back to work. His proposal was broadcast on radio programs titled “Fireside Chats”. The CCC program was one of the most successful programs of the New Deal programs.

A “New Deal” poster touted the ideals of President Roosevelt’s New Deal programs: “To provide economic relief, to stem unemployment, restore and improve the national standard of living”. Some of the New Deal programs listed on the wayside posters were: Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA), U.S. Securities and Exchange, National Recovery Administration (NRA), Social Security, Water Electrification Administration, A Better Home, Join the CCC.

In the time period between 1933 to 1942, 3 million young men and veterans jumped at the chance to have a job in the New Deal’s CCC to earn money, support their family, eat good food and help conserve the nation’s natural resources. To join the CCC you had to be male, 17 – 25 years of age (by 1940, 16-28), or a veteran, agree to serve a minimum of 6 months, have dependent family members, be willing to send \$25.00 of the \$30.00/month you were paid, home to your family and pass a physical exam.

It is of interest to note that eligibility for the CCC was linked to families who received public assistance. For this

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reason, the enrollment period for qualified young men was limited to two years.

In his book, South Middlesex, A New England Heritage, Framingham historian Stephen W. Herring wrote, "As the Depression deepened it appeared that resources of the town welfare agencies would become exhausted. Welcome relief came in 1933 when New Deal brought federal aid and began putting people to work under Work Progress Administration (WPA). There was also a Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) nearby, providing robust employment for younger men".

In Massachusetts, there were 100,000 enrollees in the CCC. The average number of men per camp was 200. There were about 68 camps built in Massachusetts out of 800 nationally. The average number of people benefitting from enrollees' checks was 12 -15 million. Average work week was 40 hours. Educational opportunities included basic literacy, U. S. History & civics, mechanics, cooking, engineering forestry, and soil conservation. Number of trees planted 2 -3 billion.

When CCC enrollees arrived at Camp SP-25 in Upton on August 12, 1935, there was grave forest fire danger due to acres of slash left from clear-logging. CCC crews made and burned brush piles leaving a few for wildlife cover and destroyed thousands of gypsy moth egg masses. Roosevelt's "Tree Army" of SP-25 planted 230,000 trees and built six miles of truck trails.

Three CCC- SP-25 Camp alumni present at the July 13<sup>th</sup> celebration reminisced and laughed about their early experiences in the CCC. The Tree Men, now in their late 80's to early 90's, years of age talked about those hard times. John Vanash, said he was so desperate for a job in 1941 that he forged his birth certificate to allow him to join although he was only 15 years old. He also reminisced that he got a pair of shoes which he didn't have before he joined the CCC. Frank Evans recalled his work in the CCC where he learned to drive tractors, bulldozers and trucks. Later in life, his work career resulted from the skills he learned in the CCC. Mr. Evans remembered planting many small trees in the 1930's at SP-25 Camp and now is amazed to see their towering growth. He remains actively and proudly involved in the activities of the FUSF. The third CCC member in attendance was Chester Lepak of Uxbridge.

In Massachusetts some of the other classic CCC structures and building can be found at: Mohawk Trail State Forest,

Blue Hills Reservation, Mt. Greylock State Reservation, Douglas State Forest, Brimfield State Forest and Harold Parker State Forest. (Source: DCR Pamphlet, The CCC).

The legacy of the CCC remains evident in Massachusetts and throughout the U.S. in our state and national parks. In a similar way, the legacies of land trusts and like organizations seek to establish a legacy of Open Space throughout our town, state and nation to ensure that these spaces will be preserved for future generations. Unlike the CCC, these smaller land preservation organizations are staffed mainly by volunteers and depend on money donations for the funding of their budgets.

My research found little evidence in Hopkinton archives relating to the Civilian Conservation Corps impact or presence.

## **SENATE AMENDMENT THREATENS RECREATIONAL TRAILS PROGRAM**

Please help us maintain the Transportation Alternatives program - and the local control provisions that help build bikeable and walkable trails in Hopkinton.

Senator Rand Paul (R-KY) has introduced an amendment (S. Amdt1742) to the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations act (S.1243) that would strip all funding from the Recreational Trail Program (RTP).

Since its inception RTP has provided money for thousands of state and local trail projects across the country, including many that benefit equestrians. RTP provides funding directly to the states for recreational trails and trail-related facilities for all recreational trail users. It is funded with a portion of the gas taxes paid into the Highway Trust Fund by recreational off-highway vehicle users.

While we agree that repairing our bridges are important, both for safety and economic development reasons, so are our local economies. Dedicating the small amount of Transportation Alternatives funding to bridge repair couldn't fix our country's bridges in 50 years. And, taking that small amount of funding away would dangerously undermine efforts in our cities, towns and counties to provide safe and efficient transportation options for everyone. With rates of bicycling and walking fatalities on the rise, that is a trade we can't afford to make.

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The Hopkinton Area Land Trust has received two Recreational Trails Grants in recent years totaling over \$20,000, with the grant money going directly to the development of trails in Hopkinton. These grants have provided direct benefits to the community and character of Hopkinton.

Please contact your Senators and ask them to save Transportation Alternatives by **voting NO on amendments 1742 and 1798**. Elizabeth Warren – (202) 224-4543. Edward Markey – (202) 224-2742

## Poison Ivy: A Year Round Risk

After the heat and humidity of summer, autumn and winter bring welcome relief from sunburn, mosquitoes and poison ivy. Well...not entirely. Though people are more likely to come in contact with poison ivy in spring and summer, the plant's irritating urushiol (yoo-ROO-shee-ol) oil can still cause an allergic reaction in winter. Cases occur from direct, indirect and inhaled contact, such as when people burn wood that has urushiol on it. The best defense against poison ivy is to recognize and avoid it in all seasons. Watch out for a vine with groups of bright green shiny leaflets, each about four inches long with the middle leaflet on a longer stem than the other two. In the spring, poison ivy has light green flowers with reddish ting. In early fall, the leave turn yellow or red while other plants are still green, and the berries change from green to off-white. In winter, the plane loses its leaves but can be identified by dense root hairs along the vine, like a hairy rope. As the old saying goes, "Leaves of three, leave them be!"

From [www.nationalzoo.si.edu](http://www.nationalzoo.si.edu)



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The care of the earth is our most ancient and most worthy, and after all our most pleasing responsibility. To cherish what remains of it and to foster its renewal is our only hope.

Wendell Berry

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**You can take an important step for your community: Offer your leadership, political support, and charitable gifts to a land trust. Better yet, consider donating a conservation easement on your land. It is an investment in the future that offers attractive tax benefits and the satisfaction that the land you love will be protected forever.**

### Become a Member of HALT

Family	\$30 _____
Sentinel	\$50 _____
Centurion	\$100 _____
Steward	\$250 _____
Protector	\$500 _____
Conservator	\$1,000 _____
President's Circle	\$1,000+ _____

Total Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

All contributions to HALT are deductible for income tax purposes.

Mail to:  
Hopkinton Area Land Trust, Inc.  
PO Box 56  
Woodville, MA 01784  
508-435-6578

Or email: [info@hopkintonarealandtrust.org](mailto:info@hopkintonarealandtrust.org)

Choose your membership level now at:  
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