

THE
DENNIS
CONSERVATION
TRUST



SPRING 2018



CELEBRATING 30 YEARS OF
LAND CONSERVATION



www.DennisConservationTrust.org

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members,

This year marks the 30th anniversary of The Dennis Conservation Trust.



Some DCT Trustees at Grassy Pond

In 1988, The Dennis Conservation Trust was created by a small group of Dennis citizens concerned about development that threatened the rural character of our town. The Trust was formed with a little money and a lot of passion to save the “wild side” of the town of Dennis.

Many of the founding members of your Conservation Trust continue the fight to preserve open space within our Town. Thank you Connie Bechard, Carole Bell, Beverly LeBlanc, Richard Johnston and Edmond Nickerson for having the

vision that a private Land Trust could successfully advocate for and protect the land.

The results of your labors can be seen throughout our Town, from the 205-acre Black Flats salt marsh behind Chapin Beach to SeaView Playland, Crowe’s Pasture, Old Fort Field, Bass River Park, Grassy Pond, and so much more. You, working with concerned citizens and the Town, have helped preserve open space at the rate of more than 20 acres per year.

As we look to the future, we remain dedicated to saving open space. There is much that is still wild and unspoiled within our Town, and we intend to preserve every acre possible.

As members of THE TRUST, we know you share in our love for the land. And, in the end, it is your support that is the engine that drives us. If you’re not a member yet, please join us today.

Years from now, when you and future generations walk the natural paths and places of Dennis, take pride in knowing that your efforts helped preserve them.

Thank You!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joe Masse". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Joe Masse

SPECIAL FRIEND, SPECIAL GIFTS

Remembering Marianne “Chris” Romanick

By: Dorria DiManno

Chris Romanick was a woman who spread her love for life and her special gifts throughout her town. Devoted to family and community, Chris’s good works and commitment were well known by everyone around her. The Dennis Conservation Trust is fortunate to be just one of the beneficiaries of Chris’s generosity, as she remembered the DCT in her will with a financial bequest.

From her volunteer work at the parish thrift shop, or the Epoch Nursing Home, to her tireless efforts on behalf of her church, Our Lady of the Cape, Chris’s priorities were to “do good” and to “do it well.” She was the recipient of the Marion Medal for outstanding dedication to her parish, an award that was bestowed at the cathedral in Fall River by the Bishop. And Chris loved music – especially the Cape Cod Symphony.



Chris Romanick (left) and Katharina Meybohn, her mother (right)

In so many ways, and by her selfless dedication, Chris made her world a better place. The DCT is extraordinarily grateful for Chris’s generosity.

DCT’S NEWEST ADDITION

The Dennis Conservation Trust continues to aim for the goal of protecting one square mile in Town. We are one step closer with the latest purchase of 1.7 acres of land in Dennis Port. The DCT Vice-President Carole Bell had communicated with the land owners for several years about the purchase of this land. This potentially buildable lot in an already densely developed area is now forever protected for conservation.

The property, consisting of two lots along Division Street and Lower County Road, is adjacent to 2 acres of town-owned conservation land. The area purchased is in RED while the town-owned land is in green. Containing important fresh water wetland, the protection of this land provides a respite to the animals that call this neighborhood home. The Trustees and staff are happy to add this to our inventory of over 605 acres of land protected by the DCT.



Only 29 acres to go until that square mile!

MEMBERSHIP SPOTLIGHT

The Dennis Conservation Trust is fortunate to have the support of so many in our community. The DCT's Director Katherine Garofoli took a moment to get together with Carl DePuy, a DCT member, to get to know his family and understand why they love DCT.

KG: Hi Carl! Tell us a little but about yourself and your family.

CD: Growing up near the Sierra Nevada Mountains in Reno, NV allowed me to be surrounded by wilderness and nature. After meeting my wife in Nevada serving in AmeriCorps and backpacking across the United States and around the world, we decided to settle down and raise a family in Dennis, where my wife was raised.

For the last thirteen years, I have been working as an Ecology and Science teacher at Dennis-Yarmouth Regional High School. I received my master's degree in Environmental Science and wrote my thesis paper on salt marsh dieback with the Cape Cod National Seashore. My passion for preserving coastal habitats has kept me busy during summer months working with the Association to Preserve Cape Cod on salt marsh restoration projects and writing research papers.



The DePuy Family



Lady Slipper

KG: What do you love about Dennis?

CD: The solitude of walking on an empty beach in the winter and the ability to explore hidden public walking trails makes Dennis an alluring place to live. We also decided to settle in Dennis because it is a wonderful place to raise children. The rich history, nearby open spaces, excellent beaches, accessible parks, and quaint town centers have allowed my family to develop a strong sense of place. Dennis is home.

KG: Why do you support the Dennis Conservation Trust?

CD: We support the Dennis Conservation Trust because it works towards preserving the open spaces that make our town an enjoyable community. Without the work of the Dennis Conservation Trust, we wouldn't be able to experience some of the wonderful natural gems in Dennis. The preservation of land in Dennis also preserves a landscape that is full of wildness and wonder that I experienced growing up in the west.

Continued on page 5

MEMBERSHIP SPOTLIGHT

KG: What is your favorite conservation/recreation area in Town and why?

CD: The Quivet Creek Watershed provides unlimited opportunities for exploration. Our favorite spots within this watershed include the Bound Brook Conservation Area, Quivet creek estuary and salt marsh, and the Crowe's Pasture Conservation Area. We can experience fresh water ponds, tidal creeks, pitch pine forests, and beaches within a short distance. Very few places offer so many different opportunities for recreation, exploration, adventure, and education.



Bound Brook Reservoir

KG: Thank you, Carl, for taking the time out of your schedule to talk with us. We are grateful to have supporters like you in the Dennis community.

THE POWER OF YOUR SUPPORT

With your financial support at any level, the DCT will confidently embark on the next 30 years with its mission to further preserve the natural beauty of our town. Join or renew your membership online at www.DennisConservationTrust.org or mail your check to DCT at P.O. Box 67, East Dennis, MA 02641.



Deer frolicking at Crowes Pasture Conservation Area

2018 SUMMER EVENING



Photo by Fleeting Moments Photography

Hold on to your hats, here we go! The 2018 Summer Evening Auction will rise to the occasion, as the DCT celebrates “30 years of conservation.” Join us as we relax, al fresco, at this year’s signature Silent and Live Auction event “under the tent” at the Dennis Inn at 25 Scarsdale Road, Dennis.

Oyster Farm shucking away! And, we can’t wait to bring back a few NEW favorites like “The Wine Toss,” and a special brew from Devil’s Purse Brewing Company. Come check out this year’s Auction items, which we’ll preview on our website.

We are thrilled to again be showcasing a PRIVATE Lobster Roll Boat Excursion, a custom set from Scargo Pottery, a beautiful new featured piece from Ross Copleman, and of course, our premier Golf and Travel packages. (And did you know the 30th is the “PEARL” Anniversary? Hint ... hint.)



Photo by Fleeting Moments Photography

We hope you can join us for an evening dedicated to having FUN in support of a cause we all believe in. To purchase tickets to the Auction, please go to our website, dennisconservationtrust.org, or call Katherine Garofoli at 508-694-7812.



Photo by Fleeting Moments Photography

P.S. from the Dennis Inn, “We are looking forward to another great season of hosting celebrations of all types, while continuing to support local organizations, such as the DCT, that are so important to the Dennis community.”

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Recognizing Susie Hine

Susie has been coming to the Cape “ever since she can remember.” Her smile widens as she reminisces about her childhood summers spent “putting on talent shows, water skiing, and doing scavenger hunts by the beach.”

In 1980, Susie gave in to her endless love of the Cape and moved to East Dennis into a neighborhood that she described as one “where we all take care of each other.” It was there in Quivett Neck, that she met her fellow conservationists and DCT members. When asked when she became interested in conservation, she said she has spent her life out in nature, as an avid swimmer, hiker, and skier, and it is in her blood to care about the environment. The beach and the dunes have always been a part of her life, so it was not a surprise that Susie was one of the first people to join the “Save the Crowe” effort in 2003 when a group of residents banded together to educate the public and raise money to save 33 acres from development in the fragile and treasured lands in Crowe’s Pasture.



Susie Hine, a long-time supporter of the DCT.

Susie says, “Conservation efforts work best when you approach them with good intentions and people listen.” Today she says she worries about our water quality, the safety of our migrating whales, and beach erosion.



Susie’s beautiful arrangements

But at the moment, she is gearing up for another fun summer season, walking on the beach and volunteering for the DCT. She will again grace the DCT’s Summer Evening Auction with her artistic talents and provide us with beautifully arranged floral centerpieces. And, although dressing up like a Duck is not her thing, she will certainly not miss this year’s Duck Race event at Corporation Beach, where she will again host the children’s duck decorating table.

THANK YOU SUSIE!
The DCT IS SUCCESSFUL BECAUSE OF YOU.

SAVE THE DATE



Written by Mollie Thompson

Join the Dennis Conservation Trust and Town of Dennis Natural Resource Department on April 28, 2018 for Dennis Conservation Celebration! This is a day devoted to celebrating Dennis and showing appreciation for all the organizations dedicated to serving the Cape community. The day begins with a town-wide litter clean up in the morning followed by a family-friendly non-profit environmental fair in the afternoon featuring an AmeriCorps puppet show, a poetry reading

by Ronald Fenn, and a lecture and hike through Dennis Indian Lands led by the Dennis Conservation Trust. Ken Foster will cook up lunch on his famous Breakaway X-Grille (made from a converted oil tank), and be sure to bring the kids for face painting and field games.

Grab your friends and meet us at Johnny Kelley Park in South Dennis at 9:30am to begin the cleanup and then return to the park at noon for a well-deserved celebration. Online registration is available at www.dennisconservationtrust.org. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to call us at (508) 694-7812.



Volunteers at last year's clean-up.

This event was made possible by donations from the Dennis Conservation Trust, Town of Dennis Natural Resource Department, Dunkin' Donuts, Dennis Public Market,



Eagle Pond in South Dennis

Ring Brothers Market, Stop and Shop, Home Depot, and the Town of Dennis Tourism Committee. Let's roll up our sleeves, grab our gloves and care for our town! We hope to see you there.

P.S. Last year, we collected over 100 giant bags of litter. Let's see if we can top that this year!

STEWARDSHIP NEWS

Written by Tyler Maikath

I am thrilled to write that I have joined Dennis Conservation Trust as the new Stewardship and Outreach Coordinator, in a new partnership with Harwich Conservation Trust, where I am also employed part-time. I was raised on this beautiful peninsula in Mashpee, and have long had an interest in conservation. I have a B.S. in Wildlife and Conservation Biology from the University of Rhode Island, and I have studied for a M.S. in Environmental Studies at Antioch University New England. Previously I worked for Greater Worcester Land Trust as their Conservation Stewardship Coordinator, in addition to many years of experience in other conservation-related positions.



Tyler Maikath, DCT staff



Eastern Box Turtle on DCT land

One might wonder, what is land stewardship? In the nature writing classic, [A Sand County Almanac](#), naturalist Aldo Leopold espouses a Land Ethic, a set of moral values to care for the land, which originates from the inseparable relationship between humans and their natural environments. I believe land stewardship is essentially defined by the following quote from Leopold:

“We abuse land because we regard it as a commodity belonging to us. When we see land as a community to which we belong, we may begin to use it with love and respect.”

Our community in Dennis includes wild and inspiring landscapes, which we are very lucky to experience every day. Fortunately, many of these same landscapes have been protected in perpetuity by the DCT.

Continued on Page 10



Local Scouts at Old Fort Field

STEWARDSHIP



Continued from page 9

However, they are being increasingly affected, both directly and indirectly, by human activity. Land stewardship aims to restore, defend, and maintain land for its conservation values, as well as recreational opportunities, in an adaptive management style, which addresses these impacts.

Since I came on board in January, I have endeavored to hit the ground running with regards to getting to know the DCT's land holdings, and planning future projects. I am particularly excited to work with some of the DCT's wonderful volunteers on these projects! It is shaping up to be a busy spring, and currently we have several opportunities for volunteer involvement in stewardship with the Trust.

Are you interested in volunteer opportunities with the DCT?

Contact Tyler Maikath at 508-694-7812 or via email at tylerm@dennisconservationtrust.org for more information.



Twenty two acres of privately-owned land on which the DCT holds a conservation restriction. This landscape will remain open forever.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Auction Volunteer Kick-off
April 11, 2018 at 5 PM
Kelly's on Route 134

Dennis Conservation Celebration
April 28, 2018

Litter pick-up from 9:30 AM until
12:00 PM
Family friendly activities and Food
from 12:00 PM until 3:00 PM

APCC Rain Garden Lecture
May 15, 2018 at 2 PM
Dennis Memorial Library

Blueberries in Bloom-
A Tour of Hokum Rock Farm
May 19, 2018 at 10:00 AM
Hokum Rock Farm

Cape Cod's Edible Plants
with Russ Cohen
June 19, 2018 at 5:00 PM
Parking at Drummer Boy Park in
Brewster

2018 DCT Rubber Duck Regatta
September 15, 2018
Corporation Beach

DCT Annual Oyster Walk
September- TBD
Crowe's Pasture Conservation Area

Spooky Stroll
October 26, 2018 at 5:30 PM
Dorothy Connors Bell
Conservation Area

Thankful Hike
November 24, 2018 at 10 AM
Indian Lands Conservation Area



Attendees of the Snowy Owl Walk in January 2018.

**THE
DENNIS
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PRESERVING TODAY FOR TOMORROW

**P.O. Box 67
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