



Chelmsford Land Conservation Trust

Promoting the preservation of Chelmsford's rural heritage and conserving open lands

Annual Letter

www.clct.org

May 2017

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This year's Chelmsford Land Conservation Trust Annual Meeting will be held on **Tuesday, May 16th at 7 p.m.** Our speaker this year will be Jim Pecora, an amateur geologist and rock enthusiast, presenting a program of regional interest entitled, "The Mines of the Mt. Monadnock Region." Jim is known as "the Rock Guy" because of his interest in the rocks and minerals of the Granite State. This pro-

gram is open to the public of all ages, so tell your friends and bring your kids.

We will begin to assemble at 6:30 pm for some delicious refreshments in the Ralph Parlee Agricultural Center on the lower level of the Barrett-Byam House, 40 Byam Road, Chelmsford, MA. After the talk, a short business meeting open to all Chelmsford Land Trust members will take place to receive re-

ports, vote on directors, and hear of the events of the past year.

Be sure to visit our website- www.clct.org – for updates and more information about our schedule of events as well as photos of previous activities and items for sale.

Your commitment to our organization allows you and future generations to experience the joys of nature. Since we are a member-supported organization, I ask that you please renew your membership with the enclosed envelope to help achieve our goal of conserving open space in Chelmsford.

Please share information about our organization and events with your friends with your friends and neighbors- we would love to have more members! If you are a Life member, thank you for your ongoing and valued support.

Sincerely yours,

Dale Williams



Site of Mill Pond Dam on Beaver Brook

Beaver Brook is running full this Spring due to abundant rainfall. The ancient dam between Bartlett Woodlot and the nearby Bruce Freeman Rail Trail once impounded a large millpond.

2016 IN REVIEW

Our annual “Star Party” was held on Dec. 1st with frigid weather but excellent viewing conditions. The Northshore Astronomy Club members were present with a variety of telescopes. 18 people braved the cold, clear night at Sunny Meadow Farms to enjoy the instructive viewing.

The Winter Fest walk enjoyed its second year in a row to Bartlett Woodlot as the trail to Skunk Island was unfrozen and boggy as it was last February. 60 adults and children turned out to hike the trail and hear about winter identification of trees (mostly by their bark), and the history of the old mill pond and dam, and Harriet Bartlett’s summer cottage site. A campfire and s’mores at Bartlett Park was an enjoyable end of the walk.

17 large, dead ash trees, and other species were removed near the entrance to Bartlett Woodlot as they were a safety hazard.

We donated \$1,000 to the Chelmsford High School Scholarship Fund for the use by a college bound student majoring in the general area of ecology or environmental studies.

The Conservation Restriction for Sunny Meadow Farms was returned by the State and recorded in the Middlesex Registry of Deeds in Lowell on October 6, 2016. The Baseline Report for the property should be completed in the next week or two. It has been a time consuming process with 3 consultants from Audubon having worked on the Baseline.



BARTLETT PARK

Harriet Bartlett Park is looking green and beautiful during this warm day in late April. The new pedestrian crossing from the Wilson Library makes the park easier and safer to access.

CONTINUING PLANS AND PROJECTS

Eagle Scout Candidate Nate Morris will be re-routing trails in Bartlett Woodlot and augmenting signage.

Boundary Walks of the three properties that the Trust holds conservation restrictions on (Heart Pond Beach, Sheehan Farm, Sunny Meadow Farm).

Planning for a fall bird migration watch is on going.