Spetuck Land Trust

2020 Annual Report

Nature Therapy

Dear Aspetuck Land Trust Member,

began my Sunday afternoon today with a hike through Trout Brook Valley, like I have several times this year. I hiked in about a half mile, came across my first big vista and took a moment to admire the view. It caused me to remember a Chinese proverb that loosely translated says: "Drinking the water of the well: One should never forget who dug it."

I thought about the dedicated leaders of our Land Trust who enabled me to enjoy this wonderful view!

If not for the vision of our founder, Barlow Cutler-Wotton and the efforts of Bruce LePage, Princie Falkenhagen, Gail Bromer, Paul Newman and others, Trout Brook Valley could have become two golf courses surrounded by one hundred or more lovely homes, the construction of which would have involved incredible tree clearing, excavation, rock crushing and loss of significant habitat for the ages. Instead, we are all able to enjoy this natural beauty in perpetuity. This is work that we all must remember and replicate so that future generations have these same opportunities and more.

In 2020, the Board, our staff and you, our members accomplished the following:

Refuge: We kept our properties open and operating safely and well despite the Covid shutdowns elsewhere in the state. Our membership increased by 64% this year and we feel being "open" during the entire pandemic really enabled this sharp membership expansion.

Green Corridor Land Preservation: We closed on the purchase of Gilbertie's Farm in Easton with the intention of preserving it in perpetuity and maintaining it as a working farm. We also made arrangements to buy the Fromson-Strassler property in Weston sometime in 2021. This is a keystone property in connecting our Weston-Wilton forest block and we have other acquisitions there we are actively pursuing that will further preserve this "last frontier" of open space in our area.

Green Corridor Homeowner Engagement: Despite the pandemic, we offered many virtual talks, demonstrations and socially-distanced plant sales to promote this great effort to connect our properties and those of homeowners in our area. We signed on 700+ homeowners as Green Corridor partners

who committed to maintain healthy yards and recruited many new members as well.

Green Corridor Funding: We are in the early phases of a large fundraising initiative to fulfill the promise of the Green Corridor and have had some impressive early success, including funding from the State of Connecticut of approximately \$850,000. We hope to leverage that funding over the next months and years to provide the resources to make the Green Corridor a reality.

Sadly, Bill Kupinse, a fellow Board member and our Secretary died in April. Bill provided a lot of knowledge and practical know how to our Board over the years. We will miss his wise counsel and dry sense of humor. Our Board extends its condolences to his family and friends, and is looking at ways of remembering him and recognizing his service to the Land Trust and our community at large over the last 40+ years.

Before I close, I want to "remember" a few of our Board members who are concluding their terms in June of this year who have provided a lot of effort in "digging the well" They are:

- Tom Johnson, Weston
- Jacquie Littlejohn, Westport
- Nancy Moon, Fairfield
- Heather Williams, Westport



Aspetuck Land Trust President Bill Kraekel.

All have contributed significantly to our recent success and we look forward to their continued counsel and friendship as we move ahead. I also want to recognize the continued efforts of our staff, who touch our members every day making a difference for all of us.

Thank you for all of your support in 2020 and we look forward to working with you all in 2021 as we continue to implement the Green Corridor Vision, and "dig more wells" for the benefit of future generations!

Sincerely,

Bill Kraekel President, Aspetuck Land Trust

The Green Corridor

Aspetuck Land Trust's Green Corridor circling through Westport, Wilton, Weston, Redding, Easton, and Fairfield will protect, connect and improve the ecological health of our region for all people and other living things.

Board Members

President Bill Kraekel

Vice President of Finance Robert W. McHugh

Vice President of Land Acquisition Ross Ogden

Vice President of Land Management Joe Schnierlein

Vice President of Membership Jeff Galdenzi

Vice President of Nominating and Governance Jacquie Littlejohn

Secretary Ellen Greenberg

Staff

Executive Director David Brant

Land Stewardship Director Lou Bacchiocchi

Director of Membership Services Alice Cooney

Landowner Engagement Director Mary Ellen Lemay

Data and Communications Manager Shaina Meyer

Trout Brook Valley Ranger Jim Wood

EASTON

Bill Kraekel Bonnie Kreitler Ross Ogden Peter Petron

FAIRFIELD

Jeff Galdenzi Amy Harlacker Nancy Moon

WESTON

Thomas Failla, Ph.D. Tom Johnson Tracy Pennoyer Michael Tunstall



aspetucklandtrust.org 203-331-1906 Aspetuck Land Trust P.O. Box 444 Westport, CT 06881

WESTPORT

Ellen Greenberg

Heather Williams

AT-LARGE DIRECTORS

Walter Greene

Kirby Brendsel

Jacquie Littlejohn Michelle Fracasso

Robert W. McHugh

Joseph Schnierlein

Established 1966

Cover photo taken by Lou Bacchiocchi of a family hiking at the Stonebridge Waterfowl Preserve in Weston during the pandemic.

Aspetuck Land Trust Annual Meeting

June 24, 7:00-8:30 p.m. Zoom Meeting



Featured Speaker Doug Tallamy, Native plant expert and Aspetuck Land Trust Friend.

Learn about the Nature of Oaks and the ecosystem services they provide.

J oin us at Aspetuck Land Trust's 55th annual meeting of the members. This year we'll discuss the land we are protecting and what we've done to help homeowners to create more biodiversity in their yards.

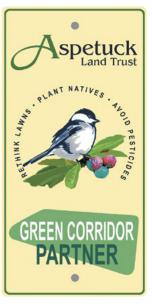
Aspetuck Land Trust members will be asked to approve a slate of directors—Class of 2025—which consists of Saul Cardenas (Weston), Bill Kutik (Westport), Joel Green (Fairfield), and Dave Nulf (Fairfield).

We will be thanking our retiring board members, Tom Johnson, Jacquie Littlejohn, Nancy Moon, and Heather Williams, for their years of dedicated service to the Land Trust and commitment to land preservation.

RSVP: Online at <u>aspetucklandtrust.org/events</u> or email us at <u>RSVP@aspetucklandtrust.org</u>.

Zoom meeting instructions: We will email you instructions for connecting to the Zoom Annual Meeting and voting for the 2025 slate of directors.

Take the Green Corridor Pledge—



Join us to help save the planet one backyard at a time!

Over 77% of land in Aspetuck Land Trust's Green Corridor is privately owned so homeowners must be part of the solution. You can make a difference in your own backyard by following these simple steps:

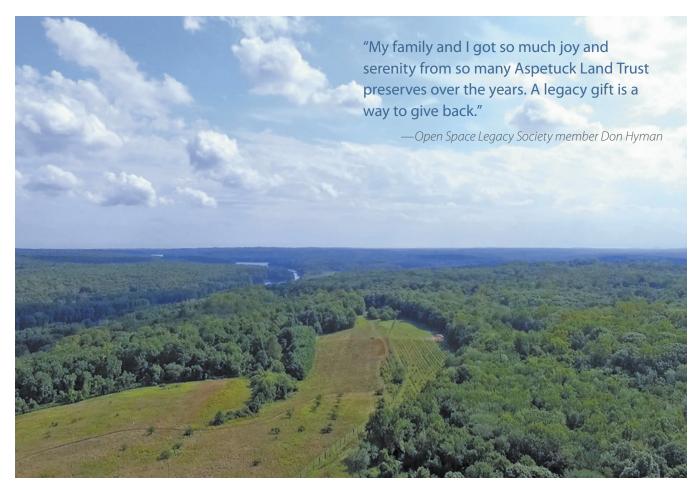
- Plant native plants
- Make your lawn sustainable
- Avoid pesticides

Even a small change in your landscape can provide a stopover habitat for birds, pollinators, and wildlife moving amongst larger green spaces. What we do in our yards can make a big difference. And all the little changes we make add up to big impact. Do as much as you can each year and make improvements over successive years.

More Information: Visit <u>aspetucklandtrust.org/homeowners</u> to take the Green Corridor Pledge and we will send you the attractive metal mailbox sign above to tell your neighbors you care about protecting the planet. And maybe they'll join you!



Aspetuck Land Trust member Mary Hogue from Fairfield proudly displays her Green Corridor Partner sign.



View of the Trout Brook Valley orchard, an important stopover for migrating hawks and ALT member blueberry picking!

Leave a Legacy

Protect the places you love by making a gift to the Aspetuck Land Trust in your estate plans. By naming Aspetuck Land Trust as a beneficiary of your will, living trust, or retirement account, you can make a visionary gift that will conserve land for generations to come.

Individuals who have made a planned gift, and have let us know, will become a member of the Open Space Legacy Society. As a member we will plant a blueberry bush in your name and you will be invited to periodic Open Space Legacy Society activities. Upon receipt of your bequest to Aspetuck Land Trust we will recognize you by including your name on a permanent "Legacy of Open Space" memorial in the 1,009acre Trout Brook Valley Preserve orchard.

Since the Aspetuck Land Trust Open Space Legacy Society was launched a number of people have come forward to join the Society to make gifts in their estate plans. These generous gifts help us save land for future generations.

For more information contact David Brant

at 203-331-1906, or dbrant@aspetucklandtrust.org or visit aspetucklandtrust.org/planned-giving.

2020 ALT Fast Fact More than 700 homeowners took the Green Corridor Pledge.

At a Glance Made Possible by You–Our Members

Your support enabled Aspetuck Land Trust to make unprecedented strides in land protection and community engagement over the past year. People are responding to our Green Corridor call to action, and your support has helped us build momentum and excitement for the Land Trust's work in the community.

Land conservation projects

- Protected 34-acre Gilbertie's Farm in Easton for \$2 million.
- Protecting 110-acres in Weston and Wilton for \$2 million, part of an ongoing effort to protect a 705-acre forest block on the Weston-Wilton border.
- The 85-acre Fromson-Strassler property is the largest land parcel contained in the Weston-Wilton Forest Block shown at right.
- Protecting 18-acres in Easton on the Mill River for \$470,000. This property provides important habitat for native brook trout.
- Protected 2-acre wetland property in Fairfield.

At right: Map of the Weston-Wilton Forest block. Below: Gilbertie's Farm in Easton is the largest certified organic greenhouse operation in the New England region.









Keeping our trails safe from the Emerald Ash Borer

The emerald ash borer invasive beetle has rapidly spread from the Great Lakes region to become a serious pest throughout a large part of the eastern U.S. It attacks and quickly kills ash trees.

We've undertaken a concerted effort to remove these trees from our trails to prevent deadfall from falling on our walking trails. The orange spray paint on trees indicates a dead soon to be felled tree. If you encounter us on the trails you may be asked to hold up briefly while we are felling a tree or temporarily rerouting around an obstruction.

Hundreds of homeowners inspired to create healthier yards

- Over 1,000 people participated in 17 educational events and Zooms to learn about ecological yard care.
- Over the past year, 700+ homeowners took the Green Corridor Pledge to take care of their yards in more ecologically friendly ways.
- Our native plant sales resulted in \$78,000 in sales creating more biodiversity in people's yards.
- Two native demonstration gardens are being installed at the Wildflower Preserve in Southport and the Caryl and Edna Haskins Preserve in Westport to educate and inspire homeowners to make the transition to healthier yards.

Osprey platform installation

This past fall another osprey nesting platform was added to Aspetuck Land Trust's 13-acre Sherwood Mill Pond in Westport. This is the second platform erected on the pond and we look forward to monitoring another successful site and hosting another pair of osprey. The install happened on a calm and beautiful morning during high tide. Every part of the platform was rowed out in boats and assembled on the site.

A special thanks to Westport birder Tina Green, Terry Shaw at Menunkatuck Audubon in Guilford, and ALT board member from Westport Heather Williams for their passion for ospreys.



Aspetuck Land Trust board member Heather Williams from Westport

2020 ALT Fast Fact 365 people bought more than 12,000 plants, trees, and shrubs at our native plant sales, resulting in more than \$78,000 in sales.

spearheaded the Osprey platform project.

Trail Steward: Team Leader

by Sherri Daley

Van Dusenbury indulges in "forest bathing"—shinrin yoku in Japanese—the practice of immersing oneself in nature, mindful of the surroundings and breathing in the peace and balance of the woods and meadows. That is to say he hikes in a nearby Land Trust property for an hour every day. "I'm a firm believer in it," he says.

As Managing Director at Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group for over 26 years, Van has spent a considerable amount of time in Japan. Most of his trips were Tokyo-centric, but people he met romanticized about traditional inns, called ryokan, in the Japanese wilderness. Prior to retirement, Van and his wife Wendy stayed at three. "We did the yukata, kaiseki, and onsen immersion," * he says. "Highly recommended."

It's a common misperception that Japan is crowded and citified; over 70% of the country is still forest. There is plenty of space for shinrin yoku. "In many ways, it was a natural extension of my existing lifestyle facilitated by the numerous Aspetuck preserves available to me."

Van often takes his dogs Cinque and Phoebe to the Trout Brook Valley Preserve near where he and Wendy live. On one of his many hikes, he ran into Land Trust Executive Director, David Brant, and it didn't take David long to persuade Van to join the Land Trust.

He feels good about helping take care of the woodlands around his home, "I grew up in upstate New York where my ancestors made their living in the lumber industry," Van confesses. "I guess I'm just trying to make up for that."

Not content to just be a member, Van is the Land Trust's Trail Steward Coordinator. He processes the dozens of offers of help from trail volunteers and matches them up with suitable preserves based on location and levels of skill and dedication. And after completing the Land Trust's safety workshop, he's a handy man with a chain saw.



Trail Steward leader Van Dusenbury directing a training session for new trail stewards.

"Van has no qualms about hiking to the far reaches of the preserves with his trusty Makita electric saw to remove downed trees and limbs," says Land Stewardship Director Lou Bacchiocchi. "He and his son Wyatt were a tremendous help sharing some quality father/son time while cleaning up from storm Isaias last summer."

Bacchiocchi chuckles. "He did make one rookie mistake, I remember. He got his saw stuck in a tree, but the rookie mistake was not getting the saw stuck, but in not having a second saw handy to rescue it. He had to hike out, go home to get his other saw, and return to get the first saw unstuck. By the time all this was done, he lost all momentum and was done for the day."

Van Dusenbury's not done now. His commitment to the work of the Land Trust is strong and personal. "I think it's important to get involved. It's local and easy to get involved. The land around us is part of our life." He stops for a minute to listen. There's a noble ash, his favorite tree, across the street from his house. The tree is dying with dignity, and from his front porch, Van can hear a woodpecker's rat-a-tat-tat. There's the smell of spring and the new leaves are pale green. Shinrin yoku at its best.

* yukata-a short cotton kimono; kaiseki-a traditional multi-course Japanese dinner; onsen-a geothermal outdoor bath ritual

2020 ALT Fast Fact Land Trust membership increased 64%, from 1022 to 1,662 members.



Against Lawn

A poem by Grace Bauer

The midnight streetlight illuminating the white of clover assures me

l am right not to manicure my patch of grass into a dull

carpet of uniform green, but to allow whatever will to take over.

Somewhere in that lace lies luck, though I may never swoop down

to find it. Three, too, is an auspicious number. And this seeing

a reminder to avoid too much taming of what, even here, wants to be wild.

Reproduced from *Unholy Heart: New and Selected Poems* by Grace Bauer by permission of the University of Nebraska Press. Copyright 2021 by the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska.

In Memoriam William J. Kupinse, Jr.

ormer Aspetuck Land Trust board member Bill Kupinse, Jr. passed away on April 7th at his home in Easton with his family at his side.

Former Aspetuck Land Trust President and Easton resident Princie Falkenhagen who worked closely with Bill to save Trout Brook Valley wrote this about Bill. He (Bill) was always, but even more so as First Selectman, a voice of calm and reason during the frenzy to raise the money to save Trout Brook Valley from development and a luxury golf course in 1999. The previous First Selectman was influenced by the developer that the development would be good for the town, provide tax revenue and give an opportunity to the residents to play golf. When Bill became First Selectman, his skills as a lawyer and desire to keep Easton a rural, unique water company town prevailed. He gave Aspetuck Land Trust and all of us fighting to protect Trout Brook Valley the support and strength we needed when things looked doubtful. He provided useful insights at town hearings when the developer tried to convince the town what a "gift" he was giving us!

Bill was always the wise "owl," remaining calm and steadfast in his principles. He was my hero throughout many battles in town—always on the "right" side of justice and integrity. The town has lost a great man.



Aspetuck Land Trust board member, Bill Kupinse, was a key advocate in saving Trout Brook Valley from development.

Bruce LePage Conservation Fund

By the LePage Family



Bruce LePage

B ruce LePage began volunteering with Aspetuck Land Trust in 1985 and, after eight years as the Treasurer, became the first paid Executive Director of the Land Trust in 1993.

He celebrated and shared his passion for the role and the mission in every hike he took, every field he mowed, and every walk that was shared with others. If you every met Bruce out on any one of the Land Trust properties, you likely felt his passion and his love for this work.

His greatest pride was the preservation of Trout Brook Valley. Bruce conquered something many thought impossible, and he brought the community together to achieve it.

On September 2, 1999, Trout Brook Valley, the largest unprotected property in Fairfield County, was preserved with Bruce leading the purchase of the land for Aspetuck Land Trust. Bruce continued to lead the way until 2008 when David Brant took his place as Executive Director. Bruce maintained the Randall's Farm Preserve in Easton after he retired. It was the last property preserved under his leadership.

Bruce LePage passed away on May 14, 2020 with his family by his side. We were so pleased when Aspetuck Land Trust created the Bruce LePage Conservation Fund to support an annual internship for a young person interested in land conservation. To make a donation to the fund, visit <u>www.aspetucklandtrust.</u> <u>org/brucelepage</u>.

Landscape Professional Partnership Program

By Ted Huber and Mary Ellen Lemay



Dan Delventhal, owner of Mow Green, on his solar-powered, zero-emissions lawn mower.

O ur collaboration with five local landscape professionals is now one year old. This partnership has been a great first step in promoting Green Corridor property stewardship. These partners represent a cross section of service offerings and approaches, are NOFA-certified organic land care professionals, and share our vision share our vision that private yards can provide habitat for wild-life, birds, and pollinators. The partnership has generated 50 new ALT members, and through ALT referrals, has generated new business for these landscape partners. In 2021, we will continue to work together to educate homeowners about native plants, organic land care and sustainable lawns, through Zoom lectures presented by these landscapers, as well as hands-on master classes at the Caryl and Edna Haskins Preserve Pollinator Corridor Demonstration Gardens.

The path to an organic and native property is neither short nor straight. These landscape partners offer valuable experience and knowledge that can benefit us all. If you need help on your property, talk to one of these professionals and become a stepping-stone on the Green Corridor.



Longest and Strongest Naomi Bleifeld

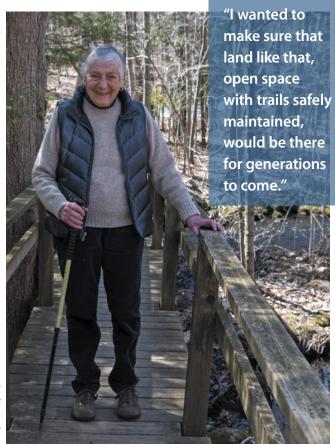
Aspetuck Land Trust Member Since 1969—By Sherri Daley

N ot much slows Naomi "Nicky" Bleifeld down. Born in 1929, she's lived through a World War; the McCarthy hearings; the assassinations of Martin Luther King Jr., JFK, and Bobby Kennedy; Watergate; the air traffic controller's strike; Monica Lewinsky; 9-11; and the election of Donald Trump. She's mastered typewriters, word processors, iPhones, emails, and texting. She watched as women evolved from June Cleaver to Gloria Steinem to Beyonce.

"Memories that stick?" Nicky thinks a minute. "I remember when Roosevelt died. I was 12 and he was the only president I'd ever known. I was walking out of the kitchen on my way to the dining room."

But today, Nicky is as 21st century as they come. "When I meet someone who doesn't have an email address," she admits, "I'm annoyed."

Dressed in jeans, a long-sleeved sweater, and a pair of trendy black sneakers, she looks more like a kid than a grown-up. "My



Nicky Bleifeld, Aspetuck Land Trust member since 1969.

friend Claude and I are going to the beach to get our walk in," she said recently, looking toward the window where sunshine was blasting in. She usually hikes in one of the Land Trust's preserves, but, she said, the trails were still too icy. Nicky lives in the warm and welcoming house she shared with Stanley Bleifeld, her husband of 62 years, a celebrated and much respected sculptor who died unexpectedly in 2011. The house and studio, at the end of a winding wooded road in Weston, is where Nicky has spent hours happily trekking through the woods and weeds. "That was why we started donating to the Trust. I wanted to make sure that land like that, open space with trails safely maintained, would be there for generations to come."

Both of them took advantage of more than the open space and sky; they enjoyed the Aspetuck Land Trust's educational hikes, like the Geology Hike, led by Anthropology and Natural History Professor Ernie Wiegand, and raptor specialist Larry Fischer's Hawk Walk.

Some of the presentations are held a healthy distance from where the cars are parked. The Geology Hike, for example, was held in the Jump Hill Section of Trout Brook Valley. Jacquie Littlejohn, a board member who acts as the Land Trust's representative on many of the educational hikes, admits that you have to be in pretty good shape to get up that hill, and Nicky Bleifeld was on that hike. "I remember her because she not only easily kept up with the group, Nicky never complained." Littlejohn says she was impressed. "Even kids were complaining."

Nicky is especially encouraging of the Land Trust's efforts to attract young people. "I'm so glad the Land Trust has programs for younger people. I think everybody should get outside," she says. "Get kids outdoors, away from their computer screens and phones. It's just so good for everybody. We all need fresh air, sunshine, birds. Open spaces where we can all enjoy all that."

This is why the Bleifeld's have donated so generously to the Aspetuck Land Trust and for so long, and why Nicky continues to do so.

2020 ALT Fast Fact

36-acres of land were conserved in Easton and Fairfield.

2020 Financial Highlights

Total

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES New Members (Included in the summary below): 708 \$712,601 Friends \$0-49 216 3,165 Individual & Family \$50-99 26,578 519 Naturalists \$100-\$499 743 109,203 Trailblazers \$500- 999 91 49,631 Stewards \$1,000+ 774,319 93 Individual Members 1,662 962,896 Foundations & Grants (Restricted 10 797,397 and Unrestricted)

REVENUE	2020 Actual	2021 Budget
Membership and Plant Sale Income– Unrestricted	\$683,457	\$1,598,771
Restricted Income (Green Corridor, Southport Wildflower, Bruce LePage Conservation Fund)	1,095,319	414,500
Unrestricted Grants and Miscellaneous Income	198,965	180,000
Accrued Pledges	1,580,100	
Total Income	\$3,557,841	\$2,193,271

\$1,760,293

EXPENSES	2020 Actual	2021 Budget
Property Acquisition Expenses	\$6,115	\$62,000
Stewardship of Properties	142,792	168,800
Promotions and Programs	68,649	76,508
Operational Expenses and Professional Fees	330,555	586,933
Administrative Costs	69,199	66,501
Total Expenses	\$617,310	\$960,742

2020 ENDOWMENT FUNDS	Main Account	Restricted Account	Land Stewardship Fund	Land Acquisition Fund
Beginning Balance	\$1,739,945	\$1,524,219	\$145,422	\$252,126
Donations and Grants (Includes \$3,771 deferred revenue)	140,974			556,000
Investment Income	238,023	84,993	22,481	825
Reallocation	-214,000	-73,000		287,000
Land Purchase: Gilbertie's				-539,000
Ending Balance	\$1,904,942	\$1,536,212	\$167,903	\$556,951

Note: Revenue and expenses are unaudited and rounded to the nearest dollar.

ALT Members

Friends, Individual & Family Membership \$0-99

Wendy Bitler

Lorraine Abelow Andy Alcosser Janet Aley Llewellyn Almeida Mike Alpert Andrew & Michele Ames Lorraine Anagnost Gerardo Ancalmo Carol Anne Ances & Burton Grad Robert Anderson Gillian Anderson Howard & Helene Andrews Melanie Andrews Elaine Appellof & Jerry Saunders Eric & Kathleen Appellof Michael Archambeau Jan Aronson Maureen & Scott Asiel Edwin Atiles Fric Autrard Bahman & Andrea Azarm Johnny & Tamara Babun Claire Baker Steven Baker Frances Baldwin ** Gregory & Susan Bambach Violette & Philip Barasch Keith Barber Jackie Barchilon Andrew Barer Paula Barker ** John Barlow Susan Barnet Suzanne Barnett Robertson Barrett Gina Barricelli Tom Barry & Heather Heenehan John Barry Karin Fox & JP Barsky Nicholas Eisenberger & Robin Bates Eugene & Roberta Bauchner Stuart & Susan Beallor Snyder Elizabeth Bechtold Arianne & Taylor Beerbower Thomas Begg Gail & John Bell Pamela Benepe William Beres Terry Bernard Jim & Mary Jane Berrien Nathan & Maggie Bird

Mike Orgrinz & Monica Black William Bloss Michael Blumenthal Ken Boardman Alessandra & Bob Bonafide Phyllis Boozer Amee Borys Edward Botwick Eugenia Bourne Sandra & William Bouton Siobhan Boyle Bob Cooper & Jessica Bram Lenny Braman L. Brandon Mark Brennan Elisabeth H. Breslav Barbara M. Broderick **** Christopher Brogan Michael Brown David Browne Diane Brunelle Julie & Ryan Brunelle **Eileen Buckley** John Burgeson Lisa & Ryan Burke Donald Button Roberta & Thomas Cable Cynthia Cage Edward Caleiesan Christian & Rachel Calemmo Carolyn Capshaw Julia Cardenas Edward & Robyn Carreras Claudia Carson Abbye Carsten Eric & Lauren Carter Carolyn & Chris Cassell David Castle Beth Catanesi Janet Chakwin Lynn Chalk Stephen Chase **Timothy Paine Chaucer** Deirdre Childs Terry Cho Helen Cho Roberta & Robert Clark Jean & George Clift Natalie Coe Paul Coffey Robert Cohen Ross Colbert Sophie Collett Theresa Collins ** Don Collins Thomas & Doreen Collins

Marilyn L. Collis ** Robert Colvin Sean Conner Kathleen Conway Marie Copeland Mark Corcoran Barbara Cottingham & Benard Yemc Sarah Coughlin Shannon Cowell ** Scott & Lauren Craighead Mary Crean & Steven Holm-Hansen Ed Creevy Thomas Crescenzi Rachel & Joe Cross Wendy Crowther Courtney Culver Peter Cusick Patricia & Thomas Czako Joe D'Errico Nicolas Dacey Thomas Dailey Deniz Dalay Wendy Daly ** Peter Van Hagen & Carolyn Davenport Carolyn Davis Patricia Davis Paul Davis John Dean James Dearth Thomas & Ilona Decerbo Mario Del Conte Jennifer Deleonardo Katharine Delong Dan Delventhal Dickson Demarche **Rima Demarias** Karen & Christopher Demeter Dale Demner Michela Depanfilis Kevin Desanty Nina Deyglun Peter Diefenbach Veena Dinavahi Valerie Diprato Gil & Connie Ditkoff Petra Dobbs John Dolan Aaron Dommu Pete Donatelli ** Nancy & Paul Doniger Anne Dowling ** Kimberly Driscoll Mark Drummond Jeffrey Dueltgen John Duer

Eileen Duffy Trudy Dujardin Cynthia Dunn Martha Durham Ben Eagle David & Susan Earle Mark & Barbara Edinberg Bonnie Edwards Stephen Edwards Xavier Egurbide Eric Einstein Dana Eisenberg Mark Elletson Charlotte Elliot Davidoff John & Amanda Elliott Melissa Ellis Julian Ellison Monique Rodrigue & Ned Elton Liz Enright Jocelyn Eppich Martha & Don Ercole Ann Erda ** Virginia Erikson Jeanine Esposito David Esposito Gerard A. Etzel William Ewert Elizabeth Falk Jeffrey Crean & Denise Farley Jack Farrell Joshua Fass Dorothy Felske Mary E. Felsmann Kim Feroleto Mike Ferrari Margaret & Mike Ferrari Christa Ferrick Fitts Sara & Rudy Feudo Rochelle Field John Field John Fitzpatrick William Fleischner Holly Flores Steve Flynn Ellen Flynn Danielle Fontaine James & Christie Fountain Carrie Fowler Walter Fowski Karen Fox Eric Fox Robert Fox Carrie Frank Helen Frank Carl & Holly Franquet Susan Franzosa Michelle Friedman

Karen Frissora Veronica Fulling Kathleen & Kenneth Fulton Fenton Furrer Dearta & Justin Fusaro Edward Fusco Alan Galletly Connie Galley Art & Ellen Gang Rose Gargiulo Pamela Garrison Jennifer Garson Patricia Gelineau ** Daniel Gerroll Karin Giannitti Justin & Melissa Giorlando Melissa Gladstone Bruce Glaser Susan Goodell Adam & Jen Goodman Christopher Gorder Bill & Helen Gore Karlin Gray Margeret Gray Linda McCracken & David Greenberg Deborah Greenberg Michael & Amy Greenberg Valerie Greenberg Dianne Greenfield Kenneth D. Greenwald Mary Gail & Jerry Gristina Bill Groth Daniel Guernsey Merideth Haas Maria Haka Madelon Hall Joy & Norman Haller Carol Hamilton ** Robert E. Hamm Mary Hanna Amy & John Hanninen Harborview Road Neighbors Group Elizabeth Harleman Mona Harmon Bowman Kathleen Harpster Marc Harrison Diane Hartman Amy Hauptman Christine Hawthorne Elaine Hay Gabriela Hayes Ronna Haynes Cody Heisinger Garth Butterfield & Nancy Held Lynda & Daniel Hennessey Barbara Herman

* Blueberry Patch Sponsor ** Bruce LePage Conservation Fund *** Southport Wildflower Preserve Sponsor **** Gilbertie's Farm Sponsor

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In Honor of David Lott David & James Lott In Honor of Richard Marek Dalma Heyn In Honor of Cia & Jersey Marion Sallie & Nicholas Pecora-Saipe In Honor of David Mars Charlene Blount In Honor of Jeanne Matthew Frica Messina In Honor of Carlo Minasi Leslie & Giuliano Minasi In Honor of The Moore Family To help preserve open space & maintain trails for all to enjoy Jacqueline Duvoisin In Honor of Lynn Moser Deanne Mcguinn In Honor of Mow Green Mow Green In Honor of Alicia Mozian & Dick Harris Thank you for your tireléss work for Sasco Brook, Westport, & the surrounding towns. Colin Walklet & Heather Williams In Honor of Lissy Newman Newman's Own Foundation In Honor of Ross Ogden, Jr. Edward Ogden In Honor of John Pressman Mike Hassan In Honor of Kristin Purcell Kelly Pollard In Honor of Cliff Ross Rebecca & Katherine Ross In Honor of David Rubin Terry Newman & David Rubin In Honor of Leonard Schine Lindsay Schine In Honor of SSES teachers, Macaluse & Piacente Samuel & Jennifer Berg In Honor of Teddy Schede Amanda Ingrassia In Honor of Landon Storrs David & Jill Brant In Honor of HKMS & JBHS Teachers Samuel & Jennifer Berg In Honor of Henry David Thoreau Mark Bisson & Elaine O'Keefe In Honor of Joan Winter Abbie Winter In Honor of The Xerces Society Patricia Murtha

We apologize if we inadvertently misspelled or omitted your name, and hope that you will reach out to us so that we may correct our records.



Aspetuck Land Trust P.O. Box 444 Westport, CT 06881

Established 1966

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aspetucklandtrust.org



You may see these native plants on one of our preserves. Look please, but don't pick the flowers. Illustrations by Paige Lyons. Clockwise from top left: blue flag iris, bottle gentian, columbine, great blue lobelia, mountain mint and hairy beardtongue.

Become a Member of Aspetuck Land Trust

Your tax-deductible donation is vital and makes an impact on our towns. Please use the enclosed envelope to send your gift of support to Aspetuck Land Trust or visit our secure website at <u>aspetucklandtrust.org</u> to donate by credit card.

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