

You Are Invited!

Harvard Conservation Trust's 2013 Annual Meeting – celebrating 40 years!

Guest Speaker: *Rick Roth, wildlife expert*
 Tuesday, November 19, at 7 p.m.
 Volunteers Hall, Harvard Public Library,
 4 Pond Road, Harvard

Have you ever seen a fisher cat up close and personal?

This year's annual meeting caps off a year-long celebration of 40 years spent protecting land in Harvard by the Trust. The Trust is especially pleased to have wildlife expert Rick Roth as its featured speaker. Rick will bring live animals that are representative of those found in Harvard's protected land and in your

backyard, including a fisher, a porcupine, foxes and flying squirrels. Mr. Roth has lived his whole life with animals. His father, Charles Roth, was Director of Education and Chief Naturalist for the Massachusetts Audubon Society for many years. Bobcats, fishers and alligators in the house seemed normal to Rick. Educated as an aquaculturist, Rick has had a fairly diverse career with one common denominator... animals. He has been the director for several small zoos and has a great reputation as a wildlife artist. For the past five years he has held the position locally as Curator of Marine fishes for a large corporation.



Rick Roth and a friend

With years of educational experience under his belt, Rick has determined that outreach programs are a great way to reach people from all walks of life and has made these programs his passion.

There will be a short business meeting beforehand and a birthday celebration, complete with cake, after the presentation.

continued from page 1...

Hoch and surrounding conservation land.



Legend: yellow outline-Hoch; yellow-state conservation land; green-town conservation land; purple-Trust-owned land

Brown and surrounding protected land.



Legend: yellow diagonal-Brown property; green diagonal-town conservation land; blue diagonal-Trust owned land; pink-Trust Conservation Restrictions

Hawthorn Trees – in honor of Elizabeth May

Three Hawthorn trees were recently planted at the Harvard Public Library in honor of beloved Trust member and past president Elizabeth May. As you enter the driveway take a look to your left and pause for a moment to enjoy their beauty. The Trust thanks those who made this possible, including Bill Calderwood and the Elm Commission; Christian Bilodeau, Tree Warden; and the Harvard Library Trustees.



Explore the trails!

Stop by our office for:
 Trail Guides \$10
 (also at the General Store & Town Hall)
 HCT baseball caps \$20

We're at:
 102 Prospect Hill Road
 (Fruitland's Museum)
 978-456-9292
info@HarvardConservationTrust.org
 Office hours 9 am to 1 pm Monday through Thursday.

Would you Like to Become a Member? Need to Renew?

Yes, I want to preserve the unique character of the town of Harvard by joining the Harvard Conservation Trust.

Membership is on a calendar-year basis and is tax deductible. Make check payable to "Harvard Conservation Trust" and send to PO Box 31, Harvard, MA 01451, or save a stamp and renew or join online at www.HarvardConservationTrust.org.

___ \$25 Individual ___ \$50 Family ___ \$100 Friend ___ \$250 Associate ___ \$500 Sustaining Other _____

Name _____ Telephone _____

Address _____ Email _____

If your employer will match your contribution, please enclose the application form.

The following committees of the Trust invite your participation. Please check any that interest you.

Conservation	Stewardship	_____ event planning
_____ lands	_____ trail maintenance	_____ membership
Administration	_____ land monitoring	_____ publicity
_____ finance	Discovery	_____ website
_____ fundraising	_____ walks & talks	_____ photography
_____ archives	_____ tree-for-all	_____ graphic design/posters
	_____ newsletter & writing	_____ printing/mailling
	_____ education	



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 TRUST

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Celebrating 40 Years

Fall 2013



President: Molly Cutler
Trustees: Laura Andrews, Tim Arnold, Robin Carlaw, Peter Dorward, Pam Durrant, Mark Finnegan, Glen Frederick, Michele Girard, Pete Jackson, Ginger Kendall, Ted MacMahon, Robin Malloy, Susan Tarrant, Lucy Wallace
Trustees Emeriti: Frank Coolidge, Larry Finnegan, Erhart Muller, Edward Squibb
Honorary Trustee: Audrey Ball

This is a publication of the **Harvard Conservation Trust.**

Contributors to this issue are:
 Marylynn Gentry, Laura Andrews, Michele Girard, and Sue Fitterman
Design: Karen Polcaro

Membership is open to all. To join the Trust, send your tax-deductible check for dues with the remittance at the back page of this Legacy Review. Alternatively, renew or join online.

Harvard Conservation Trust
PO Box 31
Harvard, MA 01451
Tel: 978.456.9292
www.HarvardConservationTrust.org

Note from the Executive Director

The Trust just received a very exciting birthday present—a record smashing number of members! We are so grateful to those who have recently joined our ranks as well as to our loyal members who continue to support us and our mission. We cannot do our work, “to preserve the unique character and natural resources of Harvard,” without the generous contributions of Harvard residents and others who reside beyond our borders. Please join us at our annual meeting on November 19, celebrate with birthday cake, and let us thank you in person. (See details on the event in this newsletter) —Marylynn Gentry

Harvard Conservation Trust Legacy Review



Photo credit: Sue Fitterman

Great News!

In our spring newsletter we announced exciting land protection news—the pending acquisition of the Brown property on Murray Lane and the gift of a conservation restriction on the Hoch land off Still River Road. *The Trust is pleased to announce that it finalized the Brown property purchase October 16; the land is now permanently protected!*

This wonderful property hosts roughly 37 acres of scenic field, apple orchard, woodland, swamp, and vernal pools. The property abuts over 285 acres of additional protected land. The property's preservation as open space allows for another access point to the conservation land in this part of town. The Trust is extremely excited to bring this gorgeous piece of property into

our family of protected land in Harvard.

Hoch: The Conservation Commission's generous gift of a conservation restriction to the Trust of 11 acres off Still River Road is nearly finalized. Related documents have been edited by the appropriate state agencies and the final steps are being taken. The land is host to a small field, beautiful wooded upland, several wetland areas with a certified vernal pool, and walking trails. The protection of this property adds even more valuable open space to the town.

(See the maps on Page 3 illustrating the location of the Brown and Hoch properties in relation to the other conservation areas.)

Harvard Conservation Trust Upcoming Events

Day & Date	Time	Activity	Place
Tuesday, November 19	7pm	Annual Meeting	Volunteers Hall, Harvard Public Library, 4 Pond Road
Wednesday, January 1	noon	Annual New Year's Walk	TBA

We've seen you around Town at our events



Russ Cohen and other wild edible enthusiasts

Foraging for your Food

On June 6, Russ Cohen led a wild edibles walk around the grounds of Fruitlands Museum. Tasty foraged edibles included black walnuts, fox grape, jewel weed, plantain, sassafras, sheep sorrel, and wild lettuce. Russ is a professional environmentalist and wild foods enthusiast.

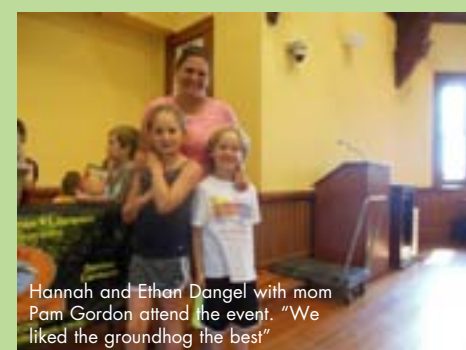


Jim Maxwell, Wendy Sisson, Mary Maxwell, and Pat White

Bird Walk

Saturday, May 4

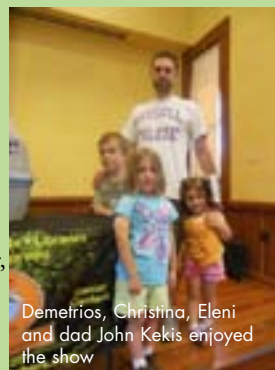
Harvard resident Pat White led an early morning walk on the Williams land off Stow Road. Over 28 species of birds were identified through sight or by sound. The morning's highlight was hearing a loon flying overhead and calling out. Other birds included a great crested flycatcher, ovenbird, pine warbler, wood duck and bluebirds. It was a great walk on a beautiful May morning. The Trust gives many thanks to Pat for her guiding and expertise.



Hannah and Ethan Dangel with mom Pam Gordon attend the event. "We liked the groundhog the best"

Nature of My Backyard

On July 8, Rick Roth of Creature Teachers came to the Harvard Public Library to introduce live native animals that live in our backyards. Rick brought several animals to the library, including a gray fox, red fox, flying squirrel, woodchuck, porcupine, fisher, box turtle, and painted turtle. This event was



Demetrios, Christina, Eleni and dad John Kekis enjoyed the show



John, Jacquie, and Scott Wilkins

Trail Clean-up Day

Sunday, May 5

On a spectacular Sunday, Harvard residents helped to clean trails in town. Thank you to the Wilkins family for their efforts at Holy Hill!

Tree-for-All May 4 and 5: American Hornbeam – *Carpinus caroliniana*

Sunny and breezy spring weather made for perfect conditions for HCT's annual Tree-for-All event the first weekend in May. This year the Trust gave away some 200 American Hornbeam trees to members in appreciation of their support. 2013 marks the 32nd year of this annual event, part of the trust's long standing tradition of preserving Harvard's natural landscape while recognizing its members' important contributions to promote that mission.

The American Hornbeam, *Carpinus caroliniana*, was selected because it is native throughout the New England region and enjoys both wildlife and desirable landscaping values. American Hornbeam is typically found as an understory tree in forests and near streams or rivers. While it is not drought-tolerant, it will grow in full sun and landscaped areas. When mature, its bark is slate gray and fluted, appearing like flexed biceps and forearms. During autumn, the trees' dark green leaves turn from yellow to orange to red.

American Hornbeam has several wildlife attributes. Seeds, buds, or catkins are eaten by a number of songbirds, ruffed grouse, bobwhite, turkey, fox, and gray squirrels. Rabbits, beaver, and white-tailed deer eat the leaves, twigs, and larger stems. It is occasionally used as nesting habitat by wood thrush and black-capped chickadees.

Thank you to all our members who turned out and collected a tree!



HCT President Molly Cutler, Trustee Lucy Wallace, and Kathy Jackson man the Tree-for-All table



HCT Trustee Michele Girard gives a tree to members Jim and Harry Burns

Trust News:

Goodbye..... It is with great sadness that we say goodbye to our Executive Secretary, Linda Kaferle, who has worked for the Trust for the past six years. Linda has decided to resign at the end of the year to enjoy other pursuits including spending more time at her second home in North Carolina. We will sorely miss Linda's equanimity, strong work ethic, diligence, and pleasant spirit. She has been the mainstay of the organization and we thank her for everything she has done for us over the years. She will be sorely missed.

.....and Hello! The Trust is very pleased to introduce Julie Weigly as our new Executive Secretary. Julie worked for ten years as a secretary and administrative support for several Harvard Business School professors. She has lived in Harvard since 1995, having moved here with her husband from Belmont. In 1999, they

welcomed a daughter, who is currently a student at Bromfield High School. As a stay-at-home mom, Julie has actively volunteered in her daughter's school activities as well as with her ballet/dance education. Julie is looking forward now to returning to work and assisting the Conservation Trust in preserving Harvard's rural and agriculture character, which she and her family have valued in their time here. Julie enjoys writing, blogging, gardening and visiting local farmers' markets.

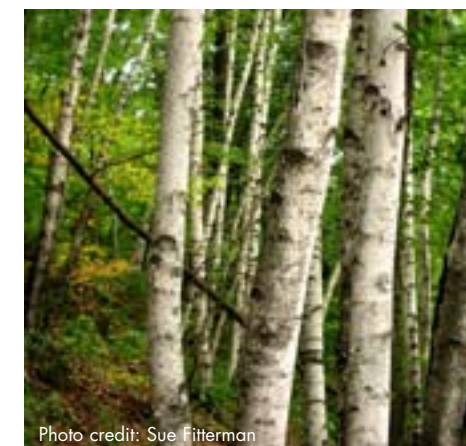


Photo credit: Sue Fitterman



The Vertex pharmaceutical volunteer team

Thanks go to.....

Trish Hurter, HCT Trustee **Peter Dorward** and **Vertex Pharmaceutical employees** who helped clear HCT's May's Easement of invasive species on September 27.

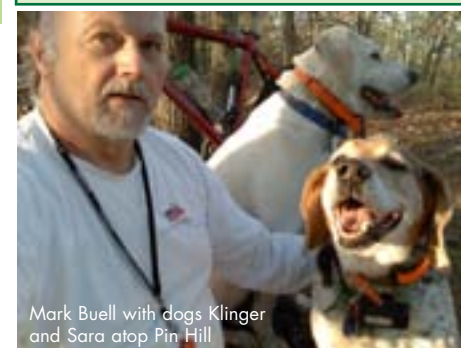
May's Easement neighbor, **Bill Walsh** for use of his land during the Vertex volunteer day.

All those who participated in **constructing fairy homes** on the nature trail behind HES on October 5. Special thanks to **Sarah Pyne** for organizing the event.

The **Warner lecture series** for continuing to partner with us; including the most recent "Mysterious Rocks" lecture on October 18.

Harvard Hikes:

- Millie's Path
- Small Nature Trail
- Shaker Spring House
- Powell-Reed-Abbot



Mark Buell with dogs Klinger and Sara atop Pin Hill

HCT's Trail Challenge

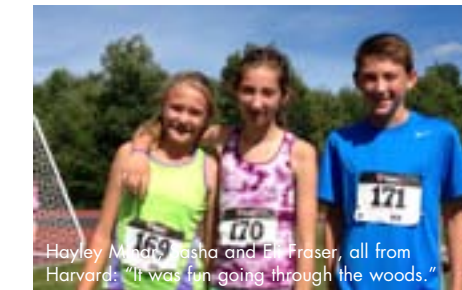
The Trust's Trail Challenge is still going on and it is not too late to participate. The Trust thanks those who have completed the challenge, including Mark Buell and his two dogs, Klinger and Sara; and Alison Thornton. Both received a HCT logo hat. Above is a photo of Mark and his dogs completing the challenge on Pin Hill.

Congratulations Mark and Alison!

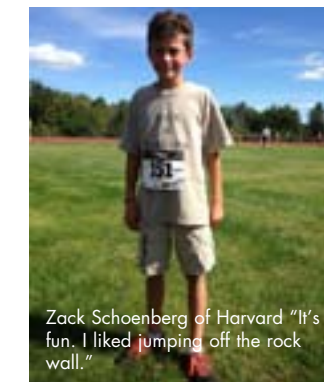
For those interested in taking the challenge, visit the Trust's web site: www.HarvardConservationTrust.org and click on the "Events" page.



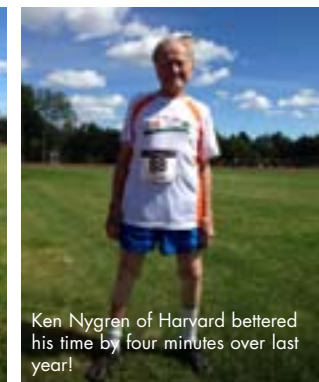
The start



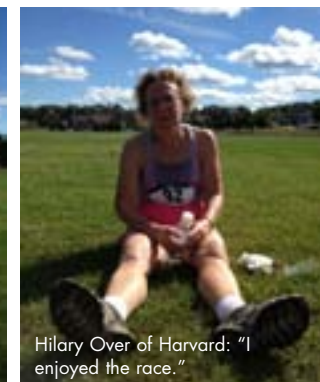
Hayley M...asha and P...Fraser, all from Harvard: "It was fun going through the woods."



Zack Schoenberg of Harvard "It's fun. I liked jumping off the rock wall."



Ken Nygren of Harvard bettered his time by four minutes over last year!



Hilary Over of Harvard: "I enjoyed the race."

Run for the Hills

The Trust had another successful Run for the Hills 5K trail run on September 8. Many thanks go to the Warren family, Tim and Sarah Arnold, the Conservation Commission and Park and Recreation for allowing the Trust to use parts of their land for the race.

More than 55 towns were represented by over 200 runners with the bulk coming from Harvard. The event was once again blessed with wonderful weather which made the race that much more enjoyable for the participants. Thank you to our members who came out to support the Trust, as well as to those who joined on the spot!

What are the Economics of Protecting Land?

The Harvard Conservation Trust recently contributed to a study conducted by the Trust for Public Land (TPL) that quantified the significant economic benefits to local Massachusetts communities resulting from investment in protecting open spaces. According to the study, preserved land provides a host of benefits that have a measurable economic value to the state and its communities. They include natural goods and services such as water quality protection, flood control, air pollution removal and storm water management.

TPL analyzed the economic value of natural goods and services provided by Massachusetts lands preserved between 1998 and 2011. During this time, 131,000 acres of parks, natural areas, and working lands were conserved, supporting the state's tourism, outdoor recreation, agriculture, forestry and commercial fishing industries.

One of the most interesting conclusions of the study was that for every \$1 invested in land conservation, \$4 in economic benefits is returned to the state. You can read the full report at tpl.org/Massachusetts

The Harvard Conservation Trust welcomes and thanks our newest members!

Jim Breslauer and Deb Thomson
Holly Grant
Trish Hurter
Phyllis Konop
Daniel Kosciak
Brian McClain
Judith and Len Schutzman
Michael Symula
Mark and Susan Weber

Appreciating a commitment to conservation . . . **Won't you join us?**



Where are We?

Do you know where this photograph was taken? The first person to respond correctly will win a Harvard Conservation Trust logo hat. Email your response to mgenry@HarvardConservationTrust.org.

CONGRATULATIONS to Margaret Kusner who correctly identified the top of Dean's Hill in our spring newsletter. Runners up were Jim Burns and Mary Traphagen. Thank you to all who submitted answers.

