

The Warren Conservator

50 Cemetery Road
Warren, CT 06754

Email: info@warrenlandtrust.org

www.warrenlandtrust.org



Spring 2013



Thanks to the Rooster Tail Inn

We wish to thank the Rooster Tail Inn for providing a wonderful spread of refreshments, from muffins and bagels to fresh fruit and coffee, for the Annual Meeting in November, as well as for their constant support of the Land Trust, providing meeting space, catering and other.



Warren Land Trust Board

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Ted Morse

Vice-President
Rebecca Neary

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Barbara Page

Secretary
Nancy Adams Morse

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Jack Baker
Laura Moore Brown
Timothy Clew
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May Brawley Hill
Dan Hulseberg
Dorothy S. Maier
Craig Nelson
Tom Sarsfield
Dave Schneiderbeck

HONORARY BOARD MEMBER
Jack Travers



From The President's Desk

The Warren Land Trust has been overwhelmed with the care, generosity, and support of the community for our stewardship of the land, our work toward national accreditation, and our desire to expand our activities in harmony with other worthy aspirations for the town. For example, we are supporting the Kent Land Trust in their goal of acquiring Camp Francis, a former Girls Scout camp which is partly in Kent and partly in Warren, as a property that would benefit both towns. In this manner we reflect the values of both communities to preserve land and to create possibilities for trails and recreation. Together with Warren Parks and Recreation, the Warren Historical Society and the Lake Waramaug Task Force, we are using outdoor events to build relationships and connect people more deeply to the town. During the past two years, we have striven to align our strategic plan and mission with community needs, values and interests. As a result, we anticipate making more informal presentations to community groups. At virtually every Board meeting, we ask ourselves questions like: "Is there a different way to think about our work to make it more relevant to the town?" "Are we doing all we can to engage our constituents in this activity from planning to implementation?" "Who else in the community might be interested in our work and what is their vantage point?" We hope to forge deeper connections with landowners and citizens of Warren and engage them as champions of and partners in our work.

Please accept my gratitude for your important contributions to an annual fund that has produced a record amount of giving for the year 2012. We continually invite your insights and suggestions and look forward to making the year 2013 another year of growth, progress and vision for the future generations in Warren.

Ted Morse
Ted Morse, President

Seeking Volunteers and New Board Members

Volunteers are very important to the Warren Land Trust (WLT). There are numerous opportunities throughout the year to help WLT, and those are increasing as we pursue accreditation by the national Land Trust Alliance. Whether you have a few hours or a full day to volunteer; whether you could attend a meeting or event, or would prefer to do something from home; whether you have a special skill or just enthusiasm, please consider donating your time to help protect Warren's unique resources and open space.

If you are interested in joining the Board, please contact Ted Morse (tedhistory@yahoo.com / 860-619-8031), along with a copy of your resume or other description of your experience and interest. All board members are elected at the annual board meeting in November. However, we may add an interim board member during the course of the year.

Accreditation Update

Under Dan Hulseberg's leadership, the Warren Land Trust board is nearly complete in adopting all of the required policies to register for pre-application for Accreditation with the national Land Trust Alliance later this spring. Committees worked hard to address issues pertaining to governance, finance, acquisitions and stewardship, and to prepare the various policies and documents required. Once finalized, the documents were presented to the entire Board for adoption.

Progress continues on our state-of-the-art records keeping infrastructure. Original documentation is stored in physical form for safekeeping in the new Warren Town Hall, and electronic storage of all documents is available to Board members on a secure, internet-based site. The Warren Land Trust continues on a journey of self-examination and national acceptance in its goal of preserving our past and natural surroundings.

Here are some ways in which we could use your help:

- Trails and property maintenance; lead a nature walk
- Warren Fall Festival Booth
- Town Clean Up and Swap Meet; Cider Run
- Write for our newsletter
- Help with mailings
- Tech support
- Event planning

We are also looking for new volunteer Board Members who can bring experience to the board in areas such as working with nonprofits, fundraising, finance, law (particularly CT bar), land trust operations, surveying and property inspection.

To volunteer, please contact Rebecca Neary (rbneary@me.com), or Ted Morse (tedhistory@yahoo.com / 860-619-8031), and indicate how you would like to help.

Warren Land Trust Mission Statement

The Warren Land Trust is an advocacy group dedicated to the preservation of the rural character of Warren. Its mission is to preserve farmland, open space, natural and endangered resources such as wetlands, forests and wildlife habitats, to encourage outright gifting of land for permanent protection and the use of conservation easements to preserve open space.

SPOTLIGHT ON LAND TRUST HOLDINGS

The Dorothy Maier Preserve

Article: Rebecca Neary • Photos: Bill DeSeta



In September 2001, the Warren Land Trust received a gift of 32 acres on Sackett Hill Road which has come to be known as the Dorothy Maier preserve.



The property had previously been owned by the Kennedy and Lyons families. When they put it up for sale it was purchased by Jeffrey Horowitz, Karen and Tucker Anderson and David Scofield, a former member of the Land Trust Board of Directors. They then donated it to the Warren Land Trust.

The property is across the street from the Warren Elementary School. Through the concerted efforts of Jack Baker, David Scofield, and numerous volunteers, it has been laid out with trails for nature walks and study.

The property is one of the few Warren Land Trust holdings on which use by the general public is actively encouraged. The trails, which are maintained and clearly marked, bring the visitors in intimate contact with nature as exemplified by the Northwest Connecticut flora and fauna.

The preserve was later named in honor of Dorothy Maier, the founder of the Warren Land Trust and its president from 1989 to 2005.

Land Trust to Collaborate with Parks & Rec for Town Clean-Up and Trails Day

As we did last year, the Warren Land Trust will work with Parks & Recreation and the Volunteer Fire Department this spring to sponsor a Town Clean-up and Swap Meet in commemoration of Earth Day. The event will take place on Saturday, April 20, 11:00-2:00, in the Community Center parking lot (next to the Fire Station).

New this year, we will also be collaborating on a program to celebrate CT Trails Day, which takes place in early June. This is likely to be a morning of trail-clearing or a nature walk. Plans are still in formation, so please check our website, warrenlandtrust.org, or the town website, warrenct.org, for details.



Energy, Focus, Collaboration



Please meet Rebecca Neary, our Vice President, coordinator and motivator of “the art of the possible.” Rebecca and her husband Jim moved to Warren more than ten years ago and immediately fell in love with their historic house on Melius Road and the quiet, rural and friendly atmosphere of the town. Their two children, Kira and Will, keep them engaged commuting between stage performances and ski slopes! And somehow Rebecca finds the time and energy to run in the New York and Boston marathons! The Nearys have become instrumental supporters of the Land Trust, the Historical Society, and Parks and Recreation. As Vice President, Rebecca has directed the Newsletter, the Governance Committee for Accreditation, our outreach to various groups in town, and involvement in fundraising.

Originally from North Andover Massachusetts, Rebecca is a graduate of Tufts University with a Master’s and PhD in Russian History. She has studied and lived in Russia, and taught Russian History at Drew University. This background, no doubt, contributes to her organizational skills. A great communicator, Rebecca brings everyone on the Board into the decision-making process.

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Warren Land Trust at the Fall Festival

In an autumn characterized by unpredictable weather, the early October weekend of the Warren Fall Festival was no exception. The forecast was for rain, or sun, or clouds, or all of the above! As it turned out, the rain largely held off during festival hours, and a sizeable crowd attended the event, a great many of whom – close to 300 people - visited the Warren Land Trust booth. As in recent years past, we raffled off a kayak, selling over 250 tickets and raising \$1500 for our land conservation work. New this year, we also drew for additional prizes, much to the delight of ticket purchasers: a \$100 LL Bean gift certificate and an Angevine Farm Christmas tree were awarded to lucky winners. Also on offer were new Land Trust t-shirts, featuring a map of our properties on the back. The booth was graced by updated placards describing and depicting Land Trust fee properties and easements; FAQ sheets; a brochure describing our properties; and laminated maps showing those properties in the context of Warren and surrounding towns. The booth was staffed by our volunteer Board of Directors and other supporters - we thank our many friends for stopping by! We are considering new attractions for next year’s Fall Festival, so stay tuned!



Working the booth



...and the winner is Faye Gomes from Goshen!



Husband Frank claiming his wife’s new kayak

2012 WLT Annual Meeting: A Tribute To Dorothy Maier

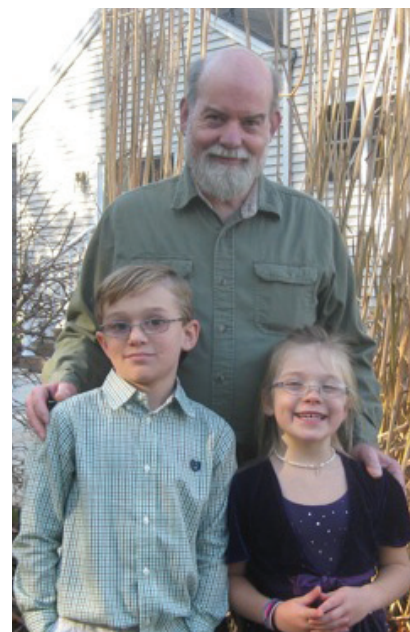
The 2012 annual meeting was held on November 17 at the Academy. We reported on our activities in land management, fundraising, accreditation, and collaboration with town organizations. Additionally, Jack Baker, Tim Angevine, Dan Hulseberg, and Ted Morse were re-elected as Directors for a three-year term, and Craig Nelson was elected as a new Board member. At the conclusion of the meeting Tim Angevine, on behalf of the Board, presented Dorothy Maier with a framed group of photos of Warren scenes, to honor our founder on her 90th birthday and thank her for her service to the Land Trust.

Ted Morse, Tim Angevine & Dorothy Maier



Welcome to New Board Member Craig Nelson

The Warren Land Trust takes special delight in welcoming Craig Nelson to the Board of Directors. Archeologist, local historian, conservationist, Chairman of the Warren Conservation and Wetlands Commission, and a gentleman who understands every nuance of the Warren area, Craig has already brought keen judgment, opinions and experience to the Land Trust and the Historical Society. He will provide salient observations to the land stewardship and decisions on easements.



Craig Nelson with grandchildren, Ella and Griffen Fox.

The WLT currently holds over 650 acres under permanent protection. IF YOU AREN'T A MEMBER OF THE WARREN LAND TRUST, WE INVITE YOU TO JOIN NOW!!

Becoming a Member of The Warren Land Trust is easy. Simply cut off this page and send it to our mailing address below, along with your check. We will send you a receipt along with our thanks for your generous, 100% tax deductible contribution. Please include your name, address and email so that we may include you in our email updates. Choose the type of membership you would like:

- ___ Family Membership \$25
- ___ Land Caretaker \$300
- ___ Land Steward \$1,000
- ___ Land Protector \$100
- ___ Land Conservator \$500
- ___ Land Grantor \$2,500

Email: _____

Please make checks payable to: The Warren Land Trust, Inc.

MAIL THIS FORM AND CHECK TO: The Warren Land Trust, Inc. 50 Cemetery Road, Warren, CT 06754

Please make any necessary corrections to your name and address on the mailing panel and submit to the WLT.

Energy, Focus, Collaboration (Con't. from page 2)

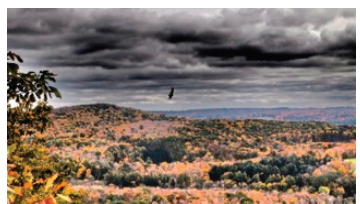
Most importantly, Rebecca has demonstrated a marvelous ability to prioritize short and long term goals of the Land Trust. She has brought an awareness of the inter-connectedness of our goals with other groups in town. She has blended full time residents with weekenders and has revealed how possible it is for all of us to demonstrate an appreciation of the unique character of the area. Through her leadership, the Land Trust has maintained open lines of communication with the town administration and community. We are grateful that the Land Trust has “an ever clearer sense of who we are and how we represent priorities we all share.” Thank you, indeed, Ms. Neary!

Photo Contest: Few Submissions, but What Wonderful Photos!

Although our second photo contest did not draw many entries, we nevertheless have some wonderful portrayals to show for it. Our two winners, Andrew Kandel and Banjie Nicholas, have truly captured our town’s natural beauty.

Mr. Kandel has been spending time in Warren with his wife and two children since 2009, although his connection to Litchfield County goes back much further – some 25 years. Of his hobby, he says, “I have always loved photography since I built a darkroom in our NYC apartment bathroom when I was 12. I took the picture of the hawk on a hike up the Pinnacle with my daughter and a bunch of her friends in the Fall.” The photo of the Warren Church at sunset, while featuring a manmade structure as well as snow and sky, is such an iconic image of our town that we couldn’t pass up the opportunity to share it with our readers.

Ms. Nicholas is a local artist who specializes in egg tempera and silverpoint, and teaches an art class called “The Naturalist’s Studio” on Bobcat Lane every Friday morning. She is a former licensed wild bird rehabilitator, and of her “Blue Love: Valentine’s Day Breakfast” subjects notes: “those bluebirds were trained to come to my studio railing two years ago when they were nesting in the box in our back yard. It was my goal to get them to eat from my hand and although I haven’t accomplished that yet, they come when I call ‘Blue, Blue’ and allow me to be within a few feet of them.” Of the deer, she acknowledges “most of us in Warren have as much reason to curse the(m) as to celebrate their grace and beauty.” Yet it is their grace and beauty that she has depicted. Ms. Nicholas’ website is www.banjiesart.com.



Andrew Kandel: Hawk, from the Pinnacle



Andrew Kandel: Warren Church



Banjie Nicholas: Deer



Banjie Nicholas: Blue Birds