

ESSEX COUNTY TRAIL ASSOCIATION

Preserve, Maintain, Respect

Spring 2021

A View from the Chair

Dear Friends.

Every year, the onset of spring brings sounds and color back to our landscapes and also a sense of renewal and anticipation of warm sunny days ahead. Our migratory birds have returned, and the air is filled with the calls of nesting songbirds. Everything is budding, blooming and the grass is a vibrant deep green thanks to the abundant rain we've had in recent weeks. Following a year when we've been confined by a pandemic, this sense of renewal and expectation of better days ahead is much needed.

The last year has been an interesting one for ECTA. What started out as a complete cancellation of any events or activities that brought people onto close contact soon became an effort to provide information to the throngs of people using the trails. As huge numbers of people turned to trails for relief from COVID stress, we stepped up our efforts to provide guidance and keep trails clear. My husband and I were walking with our dogs last summer on a remote trail deep in a Boxford forest and at our favorite scenic spot found a couple enjoying the view. They were from Boston, and feeling desperate to escape their apartment they'd been exploring trails in Essex County every chance they got. They were not alone! Interest in trails and appreciation for natural landscapes has soared in the last year. For this reason, 2020 turned out to be a good year for organizations involved in the preservation of our natural environment and its passive recreational trails - including ECTA.

As a result, ECTA has grown in the past year! Our membership is up nearly 20%, we've updated our website and are focusing on ways to share information that's of benefit to trail users. Most importantly, we're expanding our trail work as well, and are taking on more projects this year. In addition, we've applied for a MassTrails grant for a Geographic Informative System (GIS) project that if awarded later this year, will be hugely beneficial to us in identifying and prioritizing trail projects. See Carol Lloyd's report on pages 4 and 5 for more details. Finally, we've added a new director, Frank Lane. Frank is an avid mountain biker and leader of the North Shore Chapter of New England Mountain Bike Association. He's a great addition to our Board!

Thank you, members and sponsors, for your on-going support that's so critical to the funding of our trail work. We deeply appreciate it!

Wishing you peace and good health,

Martha
Martha Sanders

Martha Sanders
Chair, Board of Directors



Looking Ahead

By Stacie Capotosto, Outreach Coordinator

We're looking forward to a busy 2021, and hopefully, a new phase in safely emerging from the pandemic. Over the past year, we've updated and enhanced our website in order to provide visitors with current information about ECTA and the trails in the six towns we serve – Essex, Hamilton, Ipswich, Topsfield, Wenham and West Newbury. We've added a new feature to the website – Trail User Reports. This feature provides a place where all of us can share what we encounter out on the trails. Read other users' posts about current trail conditions before you head out. Snap a photo of something on a trail you would like to share with others and post it with a short description on Trail User Reports. This easy to use new feature can be found on our homepage or in the Trails drop down menu.

As winter turned to spring this year, we kicked off our membership drive and began to build our 2021 Events Calendar. The Spring for the Trails half marathon in early May was held virtually over 8 days but we are planning to hold our Run for the Trails 5/10-mile trail race and our Thanks for the Trails 5k as in-person, one day events, in the fall. Our $2^{\rm nd}$ annual TrifECTA Trail Challenge began May $14^{\rm th}$ and will run through July $11^{\rm th}$. This event is a fun opportunity for all types of trail users - walkers, runners, equestrians, bikers, and families – to challenge themselves and win some great prizes.

Our annual Trail Ride in Memory of Patrick Keough was held Saturday June 5th. We held a guided bird walk that same day, June 5th, in honor of National Trails Day. We are planning a twilight trail ride with the West Newbury Riding and Driving Club at the end of June in memory of Joe Sandulli, who loved group rides of this kind. The 26^{th} Annual Equine Tack and Paraphernalia Sale at the Topsfield Fairgrounds will be August 21^{st} . Along with a mountain bike event in October we are planning on adding other new events and programs now that we are able to safely gather once again.

Thank you all for your support, especially over this difficult year. I look forward to seeing you in person sometime soon!

Board of Directors

Martha Sanders, Chair
Deborah Hamilton, Vice Chair
Chris Pulick, Treasurer
Betty Redstone, Secretary
Susanna Colloredo-Mansfeld
Haskell Crocker
Ann Getchell
Caroline Gregory
Eric Krathwohl
Frank Lane
Susan Lawrence
Rob Martin
Dan Mayer

Penny Neal Rick Silverman ECTA Staff

Carol Lloyd, Director of Trail Management

Stacie Capotosto, Outreach Coordinator

Advisory Council

Heidi Adam Peter Britton Wayne Castonguay Don Curiale Christopher Currier

Chris Davis Linda Donovan Jennifer Eddy

Heather Ford Lucia Greenough Katrina Hart Joan Henderson Kay Joseph

Victoria Kunzer Carolyn Lackey Julie Lake Jim MacDougall Pam Mansfield

Sue McLaughlin

Jerry Kenney

David Merrill Nancy Merrill Lauren Norton Holly Pulsifer Ted Raymond

Camilla Rich David Santomenna Liz Wheaton Steve Whittey

Claudia Woods-Estin Claudia Woods-Estin

Trail Stewards

FSSEY

Julie DePaolis Laura Eurich Kay Joseph

Hamilton/Wenham

Dennis Barnett
Bea Britton
Bruce Cambell
Susanna Colloredo-Mansfeld
Diane Curr
Scott DeFusco
John Hart
Susan Lawrence
Michael Madden
Sue McLaughlin
Phil Murphy

Jane Rumrill David Smith Ryan Spruck Deborah Stanton

Camilla Rich

Ipswich

Debora Cole Linda Gosselin John Hart Diane Locotos

Liz Wheaton

Rick Ostberg Nat Pulsifer Joshua Regula Martin Sullivan Ann Teele Meg Vitale Ralph Williams Tom Woodruff Christina Wowk

Topsfield

Hillori Connors
Joe Geller
Saundra Guadagno
Betty Redstone
Jeffrey Kellner
Elaine Robson
Martha Sanders
Jim Slater
Tom Weil

West Newbury

Kate Day John Dodge Deborah Hamilton Gary Omasta Laurel Omasta

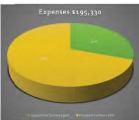
Financial Report 2019 and 2020

ASSETS CURRENT ASSETS	2020	2019		
Cash and cash equivalents Accounts receivable, net Prepaid expenses Unfunded Deposits	\$123,786 4,250 5,706 670	\$62,134 955 8,056 80		
Total Current Assets	134,412	71,226		
OTHER ASSETS				
Investments at Cost	496,736	522,137		
Unrealized Gains (Loss)	134,113	61,551		
Total other assets	630,849	583,688		
Total Assets	\$765,261	\$654,914		
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS CURRENT LIABILITIES				
Accounts payable—general Accounts payable	\$ - 0	\$ -		
credit card & accruals	114	43		
Total current liabilities	114	43		
Total Liabilities	114	43		
NET ASSETS				
Unrestricted	625,830	518,554		
Temporarily restricted	139,317	136,317		
Total Net Assets	765,147	654,871		
Total Liabilities and				
Net Assets	\$765,261	\$654,914		

A Message from Chris Pulick, Treasurer

Despite the pandemic, ECTA is in good shape financially! In 2020 we held most of our regular fundraising events – trail runs, trails rides, the Equine Tack Sale, and Trail Challenge – in virtual form with a smaller thar usual number of participants.





In addition to fundraising events, we increased our membership by 10% in 2020 and have continued that trend with nearly another 10% increase since the beginning of 2021.

Our annual donations also increased in 2020, and our investment portfolio has continued to perform well.

Due to the continued support of our members and generous sponsors, we are expecting an expansion of trail work and specific projects in 2021.

Thank You to Our 2020 Sponsors!

SUSTAINING CORPORATE SPONSORS









COMMUNITY SPONSORS

New England Biolabs

North Shore NEMBA West Newbury Riding and Driving Club

THANKS FOR THE TRAILS 2020

RICh May Attorneys at Law National Grid Institution for Savings EBSCO Law Office of Donald M. Greenough Cape Ann Savings Bank Ipswich Ale Brewery Ipswich Bay Glass Craft Sports New England Running Company Riverside Cycle

SPRING FOR THE TRAILS 2021

Coastal Greengrocer Institution for Savings Law Office of Donald M. Greenough New England Running Company Pierce Atwood LLP Rich May Attorneys at Law

RUN FOR THE TRAILS 2021

Coastal Greengrocer Institution for Savings Law Office of Donald M. Greenough New England Running Company Pierce Atwood LLP Rich May Attorneys at Law

TRIFECTA TRAIL CHALLENGE 2021

Salem Five The Natural Dog

EQUINE TACK & PARAPHERNALIA SALE 2021

Black Brook Veterinary Services Lois Cheston Donald Curiale Susanna Colloredo-Mansfeld Hagstrom Co., Inc. Integrity Residential Brokerage Lucerne Farms Northeast Equestrian Life R. B. Strong Salem Five







In Memory of Joseph Sandulli 1944-2021

By Deb Hamilton

Joe was already an ECTA Director from Ipswich when I joined the Board ten years ago. He always knew where all the trails were, having explored with the Myopia Hunt and on his own on his Arabian equine partner, Simi and later his beloved horse Prince, from Rowley to Essex, Newbury to Wenham. Once West Newbury joined ECTA he made sure he learned those trails too.

Joe was always curious and was the definition of a life-long learner. He earned a reputation as a respected legal mind, and used those skills to benefit the public by preserving access, communicating with landowners and making improvements to trails in all six ECTA towns and beyond.

Joe chaired the ECTA Trail Committee for many years, hosting monthly meetings at his home and strategizing where next to spend our resources and volunteers. He organized many of ECTA's trail rides and XC ski outings, leading us across Biolabs, along rail trails and up Sagamore Hill. He made every gathering and event special, with his ready smile and insightful perspective.

One of my own special memories is of star-gazing with Joe from the mile-high roof deck of the Bar NI Ranch in Colorado after a full day of mountain trail riding. He knew all the stars. And I'll never forget riding out onto Moon Hill behind Joe and Chris, his devoted wife and partner, under a summer solstice full moon at Bradley Palmer, with fireflies dancing all around us.

Joe rode fearlessly, and explored endlessly. I picture him riding first flight with Myopia Hunt, close behind the Master, Don Little, boldly jumping over the biggest stone walls. He loved the opportunities to travel the trails on horseback, and felt fortunate that he lived where he could do so.

We at ECTA are grateful for his friendship, and for the chance to share his generous gifts and talents.

TRAILS REPORT 2021

By Carol Lloyd

This was a year like no other in my 20+ years with ECTA. As the world closed down due to the pandemic, more and more people turned to the trails. It was wonderful to see. As this trend was becoming apparent early last year we knew that we had a decision to make. Do we scale back our trail maintenance because we were unable to hold all our fundraisers, or do we press on regardless and keep the trails open and safe for all the trail users? Not really a decision....we chose to keep them open and were really busy as a result.

Along with the usual mowing, for some reason, there were many trees down that needed clearing and additional trail maintenance was needed. Thanks to all of our wonderful trail stewards and trail users who identified all of the trees for us, we were either able to get them ourselves or notify the landowners who like to do their own work. Some were simple tree removals, others required working with conservation to remove it as part of our Townwide Trail Management Plan.





New beaver deceiver on Trail #41

COMPLETED PROJECTS 2020

In addition to ongoing trail maintenance we were able to complete some big projects including:

- New Beaver Deceiver, trail #41, Willowdale State Park
- New Culvert, trail #23, Willowdale State Park
- New Culvert on what we call the Lingerman Trail, along the Ipswich River in Ipswich
- Donovan Hill Trail Restoration, Sagamore Hill Conservation Area
- New Ford Bridge, New England Biolabs



New culvert on Trail #23 in Willowdale.



Before restoration work on the Donovan Hill Trail.



After restorations on the Donovan Hill Trail.



New culvert on the Lingerman Trail.



New Ford Bridge near New England Biolabs.



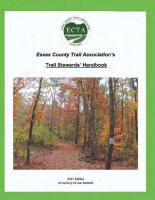
One of the many fields and trails mowed by ECTA.

MOWING & TRAIL MAINTENANCE

Much time was spent mowing. We concentrated on the areas that we usually keep open and did them multiple times. We also mowed areas that hadn't been done in a while to make sure we kept as much open as we could.

TRAIL STEWARDS' HANDBOOK

As a result of more people out on the trails, we received a lot of requests from people who wanted to volunteer to help us maintain them. To provide some guidance for our Stewards and others who are interested, we created a Trail Stewards' Handbook. It includes information about our process, and what individuals can do to improve the trails. Please let us know if you would like one and we would be happy to provide it.



Last year we renewed our Townwide Trail Management Plans. As you all know, these plans are pre-approved best practices for trail maintenance that allow us to work in resource areas without filing a notice of intent each time, saving us a lot of time and money when doing our trail work. This year was great because we did a couple of new/innovative things with our renewals. In four towns they were approved in perpetuity so we don't have to renew them every three years. In West Newbury, the town filed with us as coapplicant so that they could also benefit from the process. We are going to try this for three years and if it works well, will ask for in perpetuity the next time. Essex was renewed for three years.

We are looking forward to the busy year that we have planned.

In addition to the trail projects we have scheduled, we are really excited about an application that we've submitted for a grant from DCR's MassTrails Grant program. We're asking for funding to develop GPS mapped Trail Maintenance Plans for five of our towns. Wenham has already completed one with our help. For this project we will utilize volunteers to help us locate and map the trail maintenance issues. Using an app designed for data collection of this type, they'll take a picture, we will add the cost estimate to fix the issue, then this information will be placed on a complete trail map of each town. We will then have a master plan of all the maintenance issues so that we will be able to prioritize the work and raise money for each project. Stay tuned!

All photos, unless indicatd, by Carol Lloyd

2020 CONTRIBUTORS

Dear ECTA Members and Supporters,

We acknowledge below the many donors and sponsors who have given beyond individual and family memberships in support of ECTA. Their generosity makes it possible to fulfill our mission. Our heartfelt thanks to all.

List as of December 31, 2020 Our apologies for any omissions.

Trustee Contributors (\$1,000 & over)

Mr. Neil R. Ayer, Jr.

Ellen Cabot

Terri Campbell and Michael Mars

Mrs. Charles S. Cheston

Peter and Gretel Clark

Mr. and Mrs. Franz Colloredo-Mansfeld

Mrs. F. Colloredo-Mansfeld

Mr. and Mrs. Haskell Crocker II

Cummings Properties Mr. and Mrs. David de Sieyes

EBSCO Publishing

Tim Ford

Mr. and Ms. Heather M. and Thomas Ford

Joseph and Maureen Geller

Ann and Sarah Getchell

Lucia and Don Greenough

Hamilton Wenham Open Land Trust

Timothy Thayer

Hilton and Sara Miller

Institution for Savings

Thomas Landers

Tom and Randi Mitchell

National Grid

Penny Neal and Matthew Whitlock

New England Biolabs, Inc.

Lauren Norton and David Chapin

Benjamin Nutter

Rich May, P. C.

Salem Five Charitable Foundation

Joseph and Christine Sandulli Mr. and Mrs. Michael Schrage

Walter A. and Hope Noyes Smith Fund

Susie and Dick Stone

West Newbury Riding & Driving Club

Mr. and Mrs. Robert A. Wilkinson

Steward Contributors (\$500-\$999)

Andrew and Susan Brengle John and Kate Cabot

Rudolf and Francesca Colloredo-Mansfeld

Peter Copelas

Mr. and Mrs. Gregory Crockett

The Eddy Family

Thomas and Caroline Gregory Mr. and Mrs. Brehon S. Griswold

Deborah Hamilton

Karen & Peter Hanson

Whitney and Elizabeth Hatch

Ipswich Bay Glass Co., Inc.

Melinda Lyon

Mr. Richard Phippen

Will and Lucy Pingree

Elizabeth Rhinelander and Peter MacEwen

Mr. and Mrs. Carlos Riva

Rick Silverman

Mr. Campbell Steward

James & Debra Thomas

Diane and Mark Thompson

Patron Contributors (\$250-\$499)

Mr. and Mrs. David A. Bernard

Dr. April Bowling

Mr. and Mrs. Peter Britton

Cynthia Brown

Dr. Anne Burkhardt

Jim and Shannon Cabot

Cape Ann Savings Bank

James David Christmas

Mr. & Mrs. John Collins

Mamie M. Crouch and Michael S. Gordon

Chris Davis

Mr. and Mrs. Steven Dunstan and Family

Laurence Ettwiller

George and Susan Evans

Scott Fabyan and Marlene Pippins

Carole Ganz and Jamie Cabot

Matt Gilligan

Liz Ginsburg

Mrs. Winifred Gray

Mrs. Judy Gregg

Natasha Grigg

Anne Hutchins and James Kirschner

Richard and Katharine Kosinski

John Lichten and Mary Milgrom

Stratton Lloyd

Rande Mindick and Madelyr Bennett

Mr. Robert B. Minturn

Fred and Liz Morris

Barbara and Mike Nickerson

North Shore NEMBA

Sam & Elizabeth Otis

Mr. and Mrs. Anthony E. Pearson

Venetia and Joe Reilly Amy and Chris Remondi

Lily Rice Hsia

Janet and Mike Rogers

Ms. Martha Sanders

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Stone

Mr. and Mrs. David Wanger

Friend Contributors (\$100-\$249)

Heidi and John Adam

Mr. and Mrs. John Adams

Jennifer Allport-Anderson

Mark & Meaghan Amato

Bob Anderson

Anonymous

Richard Atwater and Carol Kling

Susie Banta

James and Jean Barry

Maria Benotti and Peter Kellerman

Ray and Joan Best

Polly and Scott Bever

Don and Cyndy Bourquard

Carolyn Britt and Michael Schaaf

Charles Brown

Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas Burke Ms. Claudia Bumham

Dr. and Mrs. David A. Byrne

Stacie & Chris Capotosto

Amy Carlin

Catherine Camey-Feldman and David Feldman

Ms. Barbara Cassani

Wayne Castonguay and Cynthia Richmond

Dr. & Mrs. Joseph Castorina Dr. Edward Clapp

Debbie Cole and Scott Homan

Dan and Diane Cook

Angela Corning

Tim Creamer

Hilary H. Creighton

Christopher Crockett Mr. Donald Curiale

Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Curtis

Joe Dailey

Betsy Dalton and Sean Chizerito

Douglas & Shay DeAngelis

Judy and Frank Eitler

John Ellis

Mr. Chris Emery

Jan and Peter Eschauzier

Katharine and Richard Feehery

GAC Runners Club Inc. Tamson Gardner

Bill Gause

Bob Gillis

Erika & John Goldsborough Turner

Craig Gorton

Steve & Tina Grasso

Phyllis D. Greene

Phyllis and Robert Hanson

Katrina B. Hart

John & Carol Hart & Carol Brooks Ball

Heather Hazel Joyce Hazelwood

Melanie Healey

Greg & Caroline Herr Don and Martha Hodgman Amanda and Michael Hogan Beezee Honan Susannah Hooker Nancy and Charlie Hovey Ipswich River Watershed Association Abigail and Boyd Jackson Dick and Sonya Jacobson Gary and Patricia Johnstone Martine Kellett Susan Knowles Richard and Katharine Kosinski Anita Kreiner Carolyn Lackey Christopher and Dalene LaPointe Susan and Jack Lawrence Josh Lemer and Wendy Wood Richard Leveroni and Jennifer Berryman Harry and Molly Lister Tuulikki Loring Nancy and Holger Luther Joyce Lyons and Gary Snyder Mr. and Mrs. Martin C. Madden Roger Martell Francoise Martinolle Joshua Massey and Marthe Aimee Dan & Jen Mayer Constance McCrane & David Schylling Linda McDonald Mr. and Mrs. James McLaughlin David and Dorothy Merrill Carrie R. Merriman Risa and Richard Moon Trish Moseley John and Colleen Mulkerin Kathryn L. Murdoch Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Murray, III Sage & John Oram Laurelee Osborn Valyri Peck-Zieff & Alex Tissera William and Sandra Phippen Katharine Pickering and Richard O'Dwyer Mr. and Mrs. John R. Pingree Lynne B. Preston Lauren and Michael Prior Mr. Christopher E. Pulick Mr. and Mrs. Nathaniel Pulsifer Mr. & Mrs. Robert Reece Barbara and Mark Rocca Ana Crespo and David Santomenna Stephen Scannell Schenker Family Thomas Sears Ms. Holly E. Sheltry Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Sillari Andrea Smith

Dick Snellgrove

Phil & Marilyn Stearns

Mr. and Mrs. Craig Stewart

Fiona Stewart and Mark Avenmarg

Pamela Stone Martin and Nancy Sullivan Hannah & Charlene Sylvestre The Teters Ann Thomas and Ben Levy Trail Comrade L. Blair Villa Margaret Vitale The Walker Family Arthur Wallace Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas White Holly F. Willard Stephen Willett and Emer McCourt Ralph and Julie Williams David Wilson Mr. and Mrs. Frederic Winthrop Mr. & Mrs. Lynn & Herman Wisslead Sarah and Christopher Wolf Jane Woodbury Dr & Mrs Michael Woods

Ford Bridge Funding

Tim Ford Heather and Thomas Ford Lucia and Don Greenough Thomas and Caroline Gregory Hamilton Wenham Open Land Trust Beezee Honan New England Biolabs, Inc.

Lingerman Trail Fund

Tim Hilton and Sara Miller

Patrick Keough Memorial Trail Fund

Felicity and Paul Beech Susanna Colloredo-Mansfeld Ron and Julie DePaolis Anne Hutchins Carolyn Lackey Susan and Jack Lawrence Jovce Lyons and Gary Snyder Carrie R. Merriman Risa and Richard Moon Sam & Elizabeth Otis Amy and Chris Remondi Joseph and Christine Sandulli Ms. Erin Whitmore

Grant and Foundation Funding

Blue Cross Blue Shield of MA Katharine Bradford Foundation Cell Signaling Technology, Inc. Evans-Wood Family Foundation Mass DCR Recreational Trails Program Murphy Shrewsbury Charitable Fund New England Biolabs Foundation

Special Gift Designations

Susie Banta

In Honor of Susan Lawrence

Peter Britton

In Memory of Anna (Pansy) Haley

Charles Brown

In Memory of Susie Stone

Andrea Burns

In Memory of Susie Stone

Barbara Cassani

In Honor of Susanna Colloredo-

Mansfeld

Charles and Mary Caster In Memory of Susie Stone

Susanna Colloredo-Mansfeld

In Memory of Jac k Murray

Cummings Properties

In Honor of Timothy Parziale

Donald Curiale

In Honor of Susanna Colloredo-Mansfeld

Betsy Dalton and Sean Chizerito In Memory of Cadance

Chris Davis

In Memory of Carol H. Davis

Joyce Hazelwood

In Memory of Susie Stone

Susannah Hooker

In Memory of Pansy Haley

Susan and Jack Lawrence In Memory of Gem

Carrie R. Merriman In Memory of Rooney

Carrie R. Merriman

In Memory of Richard Thorndike Walter A, and Hope Noves Smith Fund

In Memory of Hope Noyes Smith

Pamela Stone

In Memory of Don Stone

Robert Stone

In Memory of Susan Stone

Dick Stone

In Memory of Susie Stone

Diane and Mark Thompson

In Memory of Mark James Thompson

Anne Marie Tobyne

In Memory of Karen Connor-Del Fuoco

Lynn & Herman Wisslead

In Memory of Mrs. Sandra Simkins











Visit our website: ectaonline.org for ECTA events and updates.

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram for the latest ECTA happenings!











Please mail your tax-deductible gift to: ECTA, P.O. Box 358, Hamilton, MA 01936 Contributions can be made by credit card at: ectaonline.org or by phone 978.468.1133

	Printed on recycled paper.
--	----------------------------

Donor/Member Name Spouse/Member Name			Spouse/Member Name	
Preferred D	Donor Listing			
Address			City	
State	Zip	Phone	Email	
Enclosed please find my check payable to ECTA in the amount of \$ Please include my new or renewal membership in this contribution at the level checked below: \$35 Individual\$50 Family\$100 Friend\$250 Patron\$500 Steward\$1,000 Trustee				
		dditional contribution of \$ Memory/In Honor of		