



Director's Report  
November, 2015  
Elizabeth Migliore

### **Administrative**

**Philanthropy Day:** I attended Philanthropy Day in Hyannis on November 10, along with Fundraising Committee members Patty Platten and Stephanie Gaskill. This day-long conference included educational workshops to improve non-profit fundraising strategies, and provided networking with regional non-profit organizations.

**Orleans Water Quality Advisory Panel:** I attended as the OCT liaison at the Orleans Water Quality Advisory Panel meeting on Wednesday, September 16, at town hall. The next meeting will be held in December. For all the meeting materials, go to <http://www.town.orleans.ma.us/water-quality-advisory-panel/pages/workshop-materials>.

### **Land Management**

Through the help of our AmeriCorps Cape Cod member placement Leah Mould, our fall mowing is finished (with further mowing planned for the spring). Two AmeriCorps workdays were held, focusing on invasives removal at Moerschener Gift and Mill Pond Valley Conservation Area. In addition, the AmeriCorps Fire Crew assisted in a prescribed burn at White's Lane Conservation Area with CCNS Fire Management Officer Dave Cray and the Orleans Fire Department. This prescribed burn helps to reduce the fuel load on this property, decreasing the risk of a wildfire, and maintains the ecological health of this grassland habitat.



*Trustees Steve Koehler and Kevin Galligan lend a hand at the Moerschener Gift AmeriCorps workday.*



*AmeriCorps members removing invasives at Mill Pond Conservation Area.*



*Prescribed burn at White's Lane Conservation Area.*

### **Land Acquisition**

The Orleans Conservation Trust is exploring the feasibility of fundraising and applying for grants to acquire two undeveloped parcels on Olivers Way in East Orleans. OCT has been given until December 2016 to raise the funds for this purchase.

### **Fundraising Committee**

The fundraising committee has been meeting regularly to plan this year's fundraising events and begin planning for next year. The committee is working on the end-of year appeal mailing.

### **Communications/Marketing**

Newsletter: The fall newsletter is complete and will be mailed out by Thanksgiving!

### **Educational Meetings/ Programs**

#### Recent Walks:

*Woods Cove Conservation Area Walk Recap:* On the morning of Tuesday, November 17, I led 10 participants in an educational walk at the Woods Cove Conservation Area. While the entire property is 11.6 acres in length, the trail is just under 0.5 miles, running from Tonset Road to the Woods Cove marsh.

Hikers learned about the different ecosystem types present on this property: upland forest, wetland, and marsh. Different plant species were pointed out, including white oak, pitch pine, red cedar, honeysuckle, arrowwood, and grass species. Hikers spotted a red-tailed hawk, gulls, mallards, and bufflehead. The property is extremely important for wildlife habitat, wildlife corridors, coastal resources, and scenic value.

Recent Lectures:

On November 19, biologist Brad Chase of the Mass. Division of Marine Fisheries presented on diadromous fish on Cape Cod, including herring and eels, to 26 attendees. The presentation included a discussion of the fish biology, migration patterns, and current efforts to monitor them locally.

Upcoming Walks:

- **Ice House/Reuben's Pond**  
Saturday, December 5, 2015 from 9:00 am – 10:30 am  
Leader- Bob Prescott, OCT President  
Meet at 245 Tonset Road, Orleans

Upcoming Fall Lectures: (held at Orleans Yacht Club from 6:45 pm-7:45 pm; doors open at 6:15 pm – cash bar)

- ***The Gray Curtain***  
Monday, January 4 at 6:45 pm  
Speaker – Peter Trull  
Peter Trull's latest book is *The Gray Curtain: The Impact of Seals, Sharks, and Commercial Fishing on the Northeast Coast* — a topic of great interest here. Peter's talks are always highly informed and entertaining. A short book signing will follow the presentation.