



Director's Report
September 19, 2013
Kris Ramsay

Administrative

Annual Meeting: On August 27th, 2013 we hosted our Annual Meeting. There were roughly 75 people in attendance. Dick Ryder spoke about the CG36500. After his presentation a number of the attendees informed me that they enjoyed his talk.

AmeriCorps IP and 2013 Internships: This past month I completed evaluation sheets for each of the 2012/2013 interns and shared with the interns. At that same time I requested they provide us with some feedback by answering the following questions:

- Do you feel you had adequate guidance from staff or Trustees throughout your internship?
- What aspect of the position did you enjoy the most?
- What aspect of the position did you enjoy the least?
- Is there an area you wish you focused on more?
- In what way could the internship position be improved?
- Any other final comments/suggestions?

Meg and Ben have since provided valuable feedback that will be taken into consideration as we move ahead with future employees. All this information is being saved in a file in the office. I expect the next AmeriCorps IP to start in mid-October

Community Preservation Committee Application: I will be moving ahead to try and gain support from both the Town's Open Space Committee and the Conservation Commission to apply for a CPA Grant to help with the design and printing of a Town-wide trail guide (similar to those published in Chatham and Harwich). I expect to be applying for a grant of \$15,000 and the application will be due sometime in late November. This trail guide would include both Town and OCT-managed trails.

Land Acquisition

"Executive Session"

Land Management

Namequoit Bog: I continue to take detailed notes of the changes taking place in the bog, what plant species are coming back, how quickly the water flows in and out of the bog, etc. The hydrometers installed by the Dept. of Fish and Wildlife are still collecting data within the bog. This past week I mowed back the vegetation along the old ditches, which had not been done since Vince Ollivier was employed by the Trust. By mowing along the ditches we will have easier access throughout the bog, allowing us to take pictures and collect information more easily.

White's Lane: This past month we have had more than 20 terrapin hatchlings. On Monday, September 9th OCT, in conjunction with MA Audubon, hosted a turtle release party. 20 community members and volunteers attended the gathering. We still have two more nest sites that have not hatched. They should hatch any time.



Trail Maintenance: This coming month I will be doing a final trail clean-up.

Fundraising/ PR/ Branding

Fall 2013 Newsletter: The Fundraising/Branding Committee and I have a draft Fall 2013 newsletter layout. That includes a list of the Fall/Winter educational walks and the 2014 winter lectures. An application has been submitted to the Orleans Yacht Club to see if they will give us permission to utilize their facility once more for our winter lecture series. It is still my hope to have this newsletter out towards the middle of October.

Educational Meetings/ Programs

2014 Winter Lecture Series: As mentioned above, the winter 2014 Lecture Series is near complete. Once we finalize the presentation locations I will notify the guest speakers of the presentation dates and get the information up on the website. Right now it looks like the lecture schedule will be:

- **January 21st: History of the Wild Turkey**”- Brian Malone retired director of the Town of Dennis Natural Resources Dept.
- **February 18th- “Highlights of a Record Sea Turtle Stranding Season”** - Dennis Murley, Education Coordinator at MA Audubon Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary.
- **March 18th- “Sustainable Coastal Erosion Control: Is it possible?” Jim O’Connell, Coastal Geologist and Coastal Land-use Specialist.**
- **April 15th- Climate Change, the Global Carbon Cycle, Management of Carbon on Land:** -Skee Houghton (Richard A. Houghton Jr.) Acting President & Senior Scientist at the Woods Hole Research Center
- **May 20th- “Close Encounters of the Ocean Kind”** – a photographic journey with John King. Explorer, photographer, author and Chatham conservationist.

Up-coming Talk: On Tuesday, September 27th we will be hosting a lecture entitled “Red Knots”. The presentation will start at 6:30pm at the Orleans Yacht Club.

Recent Educational Walks: This past month we led walks at the Town of Orleans Kenrick Woods, Kent’s Point, and Baker’ Pond conservation areas. The attendances varied from 10 to upwards of 45.



This past month I also led a private walk for the Cape Cod Discovery Cub at the Twinings Pond Conservation Area. There were more than 40 participants, all of whom had never walked the trail. After the walk they donated \$75 to the Trust for my time.

Upcoming Walks: Our next walk is scheduled for Friday, October 11, 2013 at 10:00am. This walk will be through the Three Ponds Conservation Area (Twinings, Meadow Bog, Sarah's). If anyone knows someone that would make a good walk leader please let me know so we might invite them to lead a walk this coming fall/winter.