

Joshua's Tract Conservation and Historic Trust, Inc.  
P.O. Box 4, Mansfield Center, CT 06250-0004

***FORTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL MEETING***  
***& 2012 ANNUAL REPORT***

**APRIL 18, 2013**  
**6:00 P.M.**  
**Wilderness Lake Campground, Willington, CT**



Photo taken by Roseann Gottier at the Atwood Farm, which is protected by a conservation easement.





### **Isabelle Atwood**

This year's Annual Report is dedicated to Isabelle Atwood. We were all shocked and saddened by her passing eight months ago. She ignored her ninety-three birthdays aspiring to live forever, and her attitude was so convincing that we all believed that she would! She worked hard for Joshua's Trust since its formation in 1966, and even before she worked diligently to promote the idea.

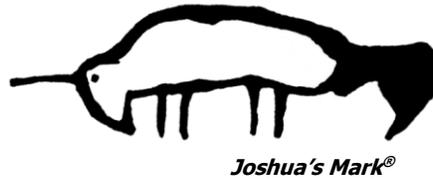
Isabelle loved Mansfield and the surrounding towns. Her ancestors, Thomas Atwood and Peter Cross, were among the earliest settlers of Mansfield; in fact, she was the last Atwood to carry that name to live on Wormwood Hill near Thomas's original settlement. She taught school in Ashford and Scotland, and as a girl, traveled all of the neighboring towns with her father and grandfather who were cattle dealers. She knew the region well and wanted to preserve every square mile of it. Joshua's Trust was a natural for her.

Isabelle devoted many years as steward for the Gurleyville Grist Mill, one of our Trust's early acquisitions. She worked hard to get grants to shingle the roof and correct drainage problems, to find tenants for the miller's house, to make repairs to preserve the mill and the house, and to engage docents throughout the summer season year-after-year. In addition, she chaired the special events committee for the Trust and also helped with many other events such as the annual dinner meeting.

She and her twin sister, Harriett, both graduated from Willimantic State Teachers' College (now Eastern Connecticut State University). Harriett stayed in education all of her professional life, but Isabelle decided that she preferred the world of finance. She became director of Accounts Payable at the University of Connecticut, a job she held for many years before advancement to Assistant Vice-President of Business Services. She devoted well over half century to these roles.

As a final gesture, Isabelle's devotion to Joshua's Trust was expressed by making our organization the benefactor of her estate of about seventy acres, with all of its buildings and contents, and a substantial endowment. Her love for the Trust will live on.





**FORTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL MEETING**

**APRIL 18, 2013**

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

Agenda for Forty Seventh Annual Meeting .....	Page 4
Letter from the President .....	Page 5
Mission Statement /Officers and Trustees .....	Page 6
Committee Membership .....	Page 7
Committee Reports .....	Page 8 - 13
Our Volunteers .....	Page 14
Forty Sixth Annual Meeting Minutes: April 19, 2012.	Page 15
Treasurer's Report .....	Page 16 - 17



**AGENDA**  
**FORTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL MEETING**  
**Thursday, April 18, 2013; 6:00 pm**  
**Wilderness Lake Campground, Willington, CT**

1. President's Opening Remarks (Allison Burchell-Robinson)
2. President's Award (Allison Burchell-Robinson)
3. Approval of the Forty Sixth Annual Meeting Minutes April 19, 2012 (Members)
4. Treasurer's Report (Hamilton Holt)
5. Nominating Committee Report (Gay Wagner)
6. Election of New Trustees (Members)
7. Stewardship (Stephanie Clark)
8. Conservation Awards (Greg & Mona Anderson)
9. Adjournment (Allison Burchell-Robinson)

.....

**Our guest speaker will be Dr. David Wagner, a former Trust President and rare species biologist at the University of Connecticut.**

**Dr. Wagner, from the Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, is the author of some very popular books on butterflies and moths. He will speak on the role of land trust in protecting threatened species. His talk, entitled "Joshua's Trust Lands, Imperiled Species, and Stewardship", will address in particular the endangered species such as the Frosted Elfin butterfly found on Joshua's Trust's lands and at Mansfield Hollow.**



## **LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT**

*Allison Burchell-Robinson, April 18, 2013*

At the recent Connecticut Land Conservation Council Conference, one of the speakers made the remarkable statement that a land trust is formed with the intention of existing forever. I'm sure that companies are formed with the intention of staying in business for a foreseeable future, dynasties probably like the idea of the long run, and families are proud to hand their business down through generations, but forever?

Think of the implications of Long Term or Strategic Planning. Should we have an annual budget or one for the century and a short term plan to cover the first 250 or, even better, 500 years? The Mission Statement is relatively easy but how does one prepare a vision statement for a world we may not recognize in 1000 years? Simply put we can't and we don't.

What we do is act today and plan as far ahead as we can comfortably foresee and to date Joshua's Trust has done a good (?) job. We've protected ourselves or helped our towns protect more than 5,000 acres. Every potential property is scrutinized and evaluated against a long list of criteria before presentation to the Board of Trustees. Sometimes acquiring land can take years before an agreement is reached, ratified and signed. We take good care of our land with yearly monitoring visits on our easements. Our stewards can be found almost daily on one property or another doing maintenance or repairs. Each property has a five year management plan and our easements all have baseline reports. We revisit our Long Term Plan for updates/changes/revisions. We meet annually with our investment advisor and maintain contact throughout the year. We frequently consult with our auditors about our financial policies and procedures. We schedule walks, talks and events for education and fun on our properties. We have a power point presentation about the Trust which is available to libraries, schools, clubs and other requested avenues. We dance to the Juniper Hill Jumpers or taste wine and beer at fund raising events.

And who does all of this? Our volunteers, that's who. You, working alone or in committees, spending more than 8000 hours keeping the Trust going. And out there in that forever world, there will be more volunteers like you, ones who will step up and carry on protecting and conserving our land and ensuring the permanence of Joshua's Trust. These volunteers will say they did their best, they made it happen and they did it well. Will there be changes? Probably. Will we do some things differently? Probably. But, remember we have a long time to make adjustments as Joshua's Trust continues... forever.

## MISSION STATEMENT

As specified in the Trust Document, Article II, the goals of the trust are to:

- Preserve the rural character of the area for the benefit and well-being of the inhabitants;
- Acquire and assure the preservation and maintenance of land in the interest of conservation of natural resources and development of an open-space program;
- Acquire and assure the preservation and maintenance of land and/or improvements to land having a unique and historical significance to the area;
- Engage in and otherwise promote the scientific study of local natural resources including plants, animals, birds and other wildlife;
- Preserve and maintain areas for education and training in nature lore and camping.

## Officers 2012-2013

<b>President</b>	_____	<b>Allison Burchell-Robinson</b>
<b>Immediate Past President</b>	_____	<b>Warren Church</b>
<b>Vice-President</b>	_____	<b>Mona Anderson</b>
<b>Vice-President, Acquisitions</b>	_____	<b>Richard Hyde</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	_____	<b>Carol Enright</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	_____	<b>Hamilton Holt</b>
<b>Assistant Treasurer</b>	_____	<b>Pat Mochel</b>

## Trustees 2012-2018

**Doug Hughes, Deborah Lee, Bonnie Ryan, Margaret Welch**  
*Terms expiring in 2014*

**Robert Dubos, Ted Taigen, Eric Thomas, Chuck Vinsonhaler**  
*Terms expiring in 2015*

**Brent Gottier, Sarah Stefan Fusco, Scott Matthies, Nancy Silander**  
*Terms expiring in 2016*

**Rudy Favretti, Fran Funk, Angelica Hansen, Greg Padick**  
*Terms expiring in 2017*

**Don Cianci, Jim Russel, Gay Wagner**  
*Nominees with terms expiring in 2018*



## COMMITTEES 2012-2013

(Note: Committee Chairs are in italics.)

### BY-LAWS COMMITTEES

**Executive Committee:** *A. Burchell-Robinson*, President; W. Church, Past President; M. Anderson, Vice-President; R. Hyde, Vice President for Acquisitions; C. Enright, Secretary; H. Holt, Treasurer; P. Mochel, Asst. Treasurer; D. Cianci, M. Welch, Members at Large; S. Clark, ex officio.

**Finance Committee:** *B. Gottier*; A. Burchell-Robinson, S. Clark, T. Holt, D. Hughes, M. Manfred, P. Mochel, J. Russel, C. Vinsonhaler.

**Investment Committee:** *H. Holt*, R. Beers, A. Burchell-Robinson, B. Gottier, P. Mochel, J Sokoloski.

**Membership Committee:** *D. Hughes*, M. Johnson, M. Manfred, B. Ryan.

**Nominating Committee:** *Mona Anderson*, D. Cianci, J. Russel, G. Wagner.

**Stewardship Committee:** *D. Donahue*, H. Bullard, B. Dubos, A. Dunnack, G. Griffin, J. Hill, S. Matthies, G. Padick, M. Robie, W. Robinson, J. Russel, J. Weedon; S. Clark, ex officio.

### STANDING COMMITTEES

**Atwood Committee:** *M. Anderson*, G. Chernosky, D. Cianci, B. Clouette, C. Enright, R. Favretti, B. Gottier, G. Haaland, A. Hansen, J. Silander, N. Silander, M. Welch.

**Conservation Restrictions (Easements) Committee:** *W. Church*, P. Andersen, R. Beers, J. Freeman, J. Hankins, J. Pagini, M. Welch.

**Development Committee:** *M. Manfred*, M. Anderson, A. Burchell-Robinson, C. Enright, R. Gottier, G. Haaland, A. Hansen, A. Lewis, N. Polydys, N. Silander, G. Wagner.

**Gristmill Management Committee:** *J. Hill*, B. Clouette, Q. Kessel, R. Munhall, T. Wakeman, G. Walton, J. Weedon.

**Land Acquisition and Planning Committee:** *R. Hyde*, P. Andersen, W. Church, D. Donahue, B. Dubos, R. Gottier, M. Kilpatrick, G. Padick, J. Pagini, J. Sokoloski, J. Weedon, M. Welch.

**Newsletter Committee:** *P. Stern* (editor), N. Silander. Mailing Coordinator: J. Seeber.

**Outreach and Education Committee:** *M. Kilpatrick*, G. Chernosky, J. Manfred, M. Manfred, H. Phillips, S. Stratton-Huber, T. Taigen.

**Reaccreditation Committee:** *M. Welch*.

**Record Keeping and Archives Committee:** *M. Welch*, F. Funk, T. Ignatowicz, C. Vinsonhaler.

**Ad Hoc: Conservation Awards Committee:** *M. Anderson*, G. Anderson, N. Silander.

**50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee:** *M. Anderson*, G. Anderson, W. Church, R. Favretti.

### ADDITIONAL APPOINTMENTS

**Archivist:** J. Blanshard

**Web Master:** G. Chernosky

**Church Farm Liaison:** P. Szczys



### FINANCE COMMITTEE

Distinct from the Investment committee and the office of the Treasurer, the Finance Committee primarily focuses on policy making to protect the long term financial health of the Trust. In 2012, the Finance Committee enacted policies regarding the Legacy Campaign and the expansion of the current level of paid staff.

Ongoing projects will include budgeting and analysis of restricted gifts accepted by the Trust. As Joshua's Trust has grown in size and complexity the Finance Committee provides an additional forum for sound financial controls that complement the work of both the Treasurer and Investment committees.

### MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Membership in the Trust remained steady after the Board of Trustees implemented a long overdue revision of the dues for each membership category for 2012, although membership affiliation shifted somewhat away from the most expensive levels. Overall, the new dues structure provide a significant net boost to revenues last year, with the \$26,885 in dues collected in 2012 representing a 27% increase over the previous year.

Membership Category	<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>
Individual	163	258
Family	321	325
Sustaining	112	76
Patron	58	11
Benefactor	7	0
Lifetime	7	7

Benefitting from strong loyalty among members, the Trust's small number of non-renewals each year are usually offset by a similar number of new members to maintain the overall size of the membership roll. While recognizing the value of quality over quantity, the committee has begun development of a strategic plan to expand the size of the membership base in 2013.

Many thanks to Bonnie Ryan, who stepped down as chair in 2012 but continues to serve on the committee along with Marietta Johnson, Madge Manfred, and current chair Doug Hughes.

### NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The committee recruited one trustee in addition to the three members of the committee eligible for 5 year terms. All three have agreed to serve. Recruitment of officers to stand for election in May has been moving forward. We lack only an assistant treasurer.



## STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

The Stewardship Committee held five regularly scheduled meetings in 2012. Dan Donahue joined the committee as chairman, allowing previous chair Joan Hill to redirect her energies to leading the Natural Resources subcommittee. Two committee members, Corinne Rueb and Ken Hankinson, have completed their terms and chosen to give others a chance to serve. The Stewardship Committee is very grateful for the contributions of Corrine and Ken as regular members, Regional Coordinators and Preserve Stewards. They will continue to serve as Preserve Stewards. We have also welcomed two new regular members to the committee, Jim Russel of Windham and John Weedon of Manchester.

### **Preserve Stewardship Volunteers**

As the Trust continues to conserve more land, it has had to grow its network of volunteers responsible for monitoring, defending and managing the Trust's 63 preserves. As a result of an effort to increase efficiency and reduce energy consumption, the ranks of our stewardship Regional Coordinators have been reorganized and increased from five to eight individuals. In addition, we have welcomed a number of new Preserve Stewards to help with recently acquired land or to fill vacancies. The Stewardship Committee is always interested in welcoming new volunteers to help the Trust meet its permanent stewardship obligations.

### **Board-Restricted Stewardship Fund**

Among the goals in the Trust's Long Range Plan 2010-2020 is to increase the amount of funding set aside for preserve stewardship. Ideally this fund will work like an endowment, generating sufficient annual income to conduct our stewardship programs without reducing the principal and we hope to raise the funds necessary to permanently endow land stewardship operations.

### **Preserve Management Plans**

Basic Management Plans were completed for the Stone Preserve and the Hemphill Preserve, both in Hampton.

### **Coordination of the Stewardship and Land Acquisition & Planning Committees**

The Stewardship Committee collaborated with the Land Acquisition and Planning Committee to ensure that any significant stewardship opportunities and any potential problems were identified during the normal process of evaluating proposed land donations.

### **Preserve Boundary Maintenance**

With 63 preserves and growing, this is one of the more important stewardship tasks that must be done. Continued progress was made by the Boundaries Subcommittee in 2012. We anticipate this long running effort to conclude some time later this year.

### **Research**

Permanent forest inventory plots have been installed in several of the Trust's larger preserves. These will permit the Trust to compare future conditions with the current "baseline" data.

### **Grants**

The Trust has secured an EQUIP grant from the Natural Resources Conservation Service, a branch of the US Dept. of Agriculture, to improve wildlife habitat at the Skungamaug Meadows Preserve in Tolland.

### **Trails**

The Trails subcommittee and volunteers, led by Chairman Gary Griffin, have accomplished a remarkable amount of stewardship work in 2012. Their projects range from removing fallen trees, spreading woodchips, installing bridges and boardwalks to the ongoing task of invasive species removal. This dedicated group spent over 300 hours working to enhance the Trust's property.

## **ATWOOD COMMITTEE**

The committee worked with Steve Bacon to change the Atwood will to better fit the needs of the Trust. After Isabelle's death we have managed the property including, meeting with the attorney, finding a renter, dealing with storms, getting an engineering report, helping with the estate inventory, giving tours to trustees, developing possible uses and estimated costs, developing a site plan, and preparing reports to the board.

## **CONSERVATION RESTRICTION COMMITTEE**

**Easement Monitoring:** Annual monitoring of our 61 conservation easements was conducted in a timely fashion. No significant violations were found.

**House Lots:** The location of two house lots were approved on conservation easements in Lebanon and in Willington. Both of these lots were permitted by the easements.

**Owner Workshop** An easement owner workshop on invasive control was held on May 19. It was very successful in terms of overall numbers (30). There was approximately equal number of easement owners, monitors and other JT members in attendance. The workshop featured both Trust and outside speakers as well as a tour of Owen's Mere Preserve.



## **DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

### **Activities:**

- Wine & Craft Beer Festival, May 2012, raised just over \$3,000.
- Annual Appeal sent in fall 2013 raised over \$17,000.
- Capital Campaign began in fall 2012. \$61, 900 has been given or pledged by BOT and officers. As of 2/4/13, \$539,519 has been given or pledged in the Quiet Phase of the campaign.
- February 2013 Dixieland Jazz Festival, music contributed by Hill Bullard's Juniper Hill Jumpers, raised almost \$1,000.
- Design work on display boards completed.
- Grant Application to First Niagara Bank; received \$250.

### **Plans for 2013-14**

- Continue Capital Campaign. Goal is \$750,000.
- Develop data base on donors and increase personal contact with them.
- Wine Tasting, May 19<sup>th</sup>.
- Personal contact with Buck Foundation
- Musical fundraiser in the fall, possibly Rainy Arbo

## **GRIST MILL COMMITTEE REPORT**

Due to meetings having lapsed several years back, a "new" Grist Mill Committee was formed in October of 2012, and is currently engaged in developing a 5 Year Management Plan for this Trust property.

Goals and Objectives have been determined for the five main aspects of the property: the Grist Mill proper, the Museum, the Miller's House, the Grounds which include a 5 acre meadow, and the Interpretive/Outreach Program. The Committee is currently working on a budget to enable the plan.

It is expected that the plan and budget will be complete at the outset of the next fiscal year: July 1, 2013, and hopefully approved by the Board of Trustees subsequent to that date.

Respectfully submitted,  
Joan Hill  
Grist Mill Committee Chair

## **LAND ACQUISITION ANNUAL REPORT**

The process of acquiring land in fee or conservation easements is by its nature slow and sometimes complicated. There are many players including the donors, their families, the Joshua's Tract Land Acquisition Committee members, sometimes Town Commissions, and the members of the Trust's Board of Trustees. Until final agreements are reached, votes taken and transactions completed, a certain amount of discretion is required to protect the privacy of the donor(s). The Committee talked to a number of families wanting information on how to protect their family land this past year including two who were looking for possible language for their Wills.

There were three properties given to Joshua's Trust in-fee during 2012, they include:

- 1) Through his will, Warren Stone generously left the Trust 17 acres of his property in Hampton. The deed for the property was officially transferred to the Trust in February of 2012, and the land is now known as the "Warren Stone Preserve".
- 2) Dr. Steven Stein gave the Trust 3 plus acres that abut the "Allanach-Wolf Woodlands" in the Town of Windham. This land was transferred in October and is dominated by a very fine vernal pool in the center of the parcel.
- 3) The children of Margaret and George Hemphill (Thomas Hemphill, Clara Hemphill and Lowry Hemphill) in May donated the family land in Hampton totaling approximately 45 acres in honor of their parents. This forest property will be known as the "George and Margaret Hemphill Woods".

There was one conservation easement given to the Trust by the Goodrich family on 30 acres of land along the Natchaug River in Chaplin.

## **NEWSLETTER**

Four newsletters of 4-6 pages each were created in 2012 (March, April, September, December), written by Nancy Silander and edited by Paul Stern, alumni editor at the Hartford Courant. Between 900 and 1000 newsletters were mailed to members, libraries, commissions, and other conservation organizations. A crew of volunteers, organized by Jane Seeber, folded and labeled each copy. Beginning in April, 2012, the newsletter is being sent electronically to those members who request it. Approximately 100 members now receive it by email. Gail Chernosky also posts it on the web site, including older editions.

## **CONSERVATION AWARDS COMMITTEE**

The Conservation Awards Committee met by phone and determined the awardees, gathered information for introductions, ordered certificates and plaques.

## **50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE**

The 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee is in a data gathering phase and did not meet.



## **OUTREACH AND EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

The members of the Outreach and Education Committee were very busy this past year with many events and activities. Other JT members also assisted the committee.

We had a traveling photography exhibit of JT properties by the Quiet Corner Camera Club members. It was in the Mansfield Community Center in July-August, Columbia's library in March and Hampton's library in April. It has been very well received.

Many walks were held ----Two Sisters, Preston Sanctuary, Tobiassen Forest, Allanach-Wolf Woodland (this was also an event), Potter Meadow, Bradley Buchanan Woods, Dunham Woods, Pigeon Swamp, Hubbard Sanctuary, and some Walktober Walks. Many topics were shared from walk leader training to birding and from seniors to a children's walk. They were held during all the seasons from the hot summer to the winter snows. Enjoyed by all.

Other happenings and participation ----Willimantic Third Thursdays, Lebanon Antique Fair, Mansfield Festival on the Green, Hampton Memorial Day Parade, interview on the Wayne Norman radio show, contact with ECSU Dr Szczys for planning a talk for her students.

The website and Facebook pages were maintained with current JT happenings and event notification, an entire JT membership list was developed and used for JT event mailings, a 'What Is It' feature on the website was established.

A 'kit' was constructed for use at fairs, etc with a canopy being purchased.

Publicity was sent via all avenues for JT events.

Coffee mugs with the JT logo was investigated.

Trout Unlimited Program presented at schools and JT walk books handed out to the students.

Presentation to Willimantic Kiwanis about JT

## **RECORD KEEPING AND ARCHIVES COMMITTEE**

The Record Keeping and Archive Committee was formed in 2012 to review the Trust's filing protocol and make any necessary improvements to reduce redundancy, improve organization, eliminate unnecessary items, and ensure the files will support the day-to-day needs of the Trust and renewal of our accreditation.

In 2012, the committee developed a new file protocol for the files related to easements and properties and has been working through each file and associated binder to ensure consistency throughout. All easement files and binders have been reorganized and the committee is progressing through the reorganization of the property files and binders.

During 2013, the committee will complete the reorganization of the property files; move property and easement-related legal papers that are kept in the Office to a fireproof/waterproof safe; attend to the reorganization of the large map files; and begin to address the off-site archives in the Ashford Town Hall.

## **JOSHUA'S TRUST VOLUNTEERS**

Officers, trustees and committee members, stewards and monitors contributed approximately 8,000 hours of service during 2012.

### **Thank You, JT Volunteers, One and All!**

#### **Property Stewards**

Phil Alexandrin, Peter Andersen, Greg & Mona Anderson, George & Ann Bailey, John Barclay, Tom Bloom, Joe Charron, Albert Ching, Karen Chrishanson, Greg Cichowski, Ruth Cutler, Bill Darcy, Steve Dolan, Ann Dunnack, Christian Fongemie, David & Susan Fowler, Jack Fulton, Matt Gaffney, Leon Gardner, Claude Garritt, Jr., Gary Griffin, Henry Gruner, Gwen & Roald Haaland, Deborah & Robert Haas, John Hankins, Ken Hankinson, Christine Hare, Kay Holt, Richard Hyde, George Jacobi, Careen Jennings, Harry Johnson, Keith Johnson, Chris Juhl, Ronald Kelly, Marc Lang, Fiona Leek, Scott Lehmann, Kitty LeShay, Neal Lewis, Carl & Julie Lindquist, Kate Lynch, Lance Magnuson, John Manfred, Scott Matthies, Charles McCaughtry, John Morey, Mike Morrell, Ruth Moynihan, Robert Munhall, Harold Nelson, Richard Norgaard, Axel Oschmann, Valerie Oliver, Anne O'Neil, Greg Padick, John Pagini, Wendy Parker, William Philbrick, Steven Rackliffe, John Reynolds, Wally & Allison Robinson, Corrine Rueb, Peggy Rux, Juan Sanchez, Jr., Robert Schoff, Jonathan Sgro, Craig Smith, John Sokoloski, Ann Marie Starck, Arthur Steele, Henry Swart, Rachel Tambling, Eric Thomas, Michelle Tompkins, Steve Toubman, Julie Victoria, Richard Weingart, Carl & Karen Wyatt, Nord Yakovleff

#### **Regional Coordinators**

Bob Dubos, Ann Dunnack, Gary Griffin, Ken Hankinson, Scott Matthies, Greg Padick, Maura Robie, Jim Russel, John Weedon

#### **Conservation Easement Monitors**

Peter Andersen, Alton Blodgett, Hank Bowers, Warren Church, Tom DeJohn, Joanne Freeman, Roseanne Gottier, Gary Griffin, Joan Hill, Richard Hyde, Quentin Kessel, Sharon Lee LaPlant, Terry LaVoie, Lance Magnuson, Scott Matthies, Charles McCaughtry, John Meyer, John Pagini, Corrine Rueb, Juan Sanchez, Jr., James & Kathy Stebbins, Paul Stern, Ted Taigen, Stan Tetrault

#### **Mailing Volunteers**

Jane Seeber, Coordinator: Sandy Baxter, Betsy Cameron, Jean Haas, Eileen Kennedy, Becky Lehmann, Ann Lewis, Mig McCarrick, Carol Phillips, Jean Rice, Bill Ryan, Bonnie Ryan, Nancy Silander, Jennie Talbot, Barbara Troyer



**Minutes 46<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, April 19, 2012**

President Allison-Burchell-Robinson called the meeting to order at 7:45 p.m. She welcomed the approximately 124 attendees to the Wilderness Lake Camp in Willington and thanked caterer, Tom O'Connor for the excellent dinner. She thanked Roy Crossen for having provided the space for the evening's events, and Mona Anderson, Isabelle Atwood, and Nancy Silander for organizing the affair. She noted that this year's Annual Report was dedicated to the memory of Corine Norgaard, former Trustee, tireless volunteer as the Chair of the Development Committee, and beloved friend of all who knew her. Her husband, Dick Norgaard, was introduced to a round of applause.

Burchell-Robinson cited the work of Nancy Silander and Paul Stern, who produce the newsletter, for keeping members informed of the work that JT does throughout the year. She introduced Stephanie Clark, JT's new Conservation Coordinator, who brings her training, enthusiasm and youth to the position. She reported that the "Critter" has been copyrighted and is now ours. And she noted that JT's volunteers contributed 7,500 hours to the organization this past year, which translates into \$65,000 worth of services at the minimum wage rate. She asked all volunteers to stand to be acknowledged.

Burchell-Robinson then presented the President's Award to Chuck Vinsonhaler. Chuck, a retired math professor at UConn, and current Trustee of JT, has devoted countless hours at the office to the projects he has been assigned. He thanked Burchell-Robinson for the award.

**Wally Robinson moved and Marcia Kilpatrick seconded that the minutes of the 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting be approved. The motion passed.**

Treasurer Tony Holt reported that the condition of the Trust is strong. He noted that most of our funds are committed to certain properties or activities with little left over to contribute to such worthy causes as helping towns protect land. He reminded attendees that our obligations must be met in perpetuity. And he thanked his very able Assistant Treasurer, Pat Mochel.

Mona Anderson introduced the incoming Trustees. Rudy Favretti is Professor Emeritus of Landscape Architecture at UConn, the author of 14 books, and architect of over 500 landscape projects. Rudy lives in Mansfield. Greg Padick was the Town Planner of Coventry and Mansfield. He helped protect 2,500 acres of land during his years working in Mansfield, where he now lives. Angelika Hansen came to the U.S. in 1954, and has lived in Hampton since 1982. She is a realtor. Fran Funk has lived in Coventry since 1961, and served as President of JT from 1977-1978. **Joan Beck moved and Nancy Silander seconded that Rudy Favretti, Greg Padick, Angelika Hansen and Fran Funk be elected Trustees. The motion passed.**

Joan Hill, outgoing chair of Stewardship, thanked five retiring Stewards, Rich Moynihan, Denise Burchstead, Mike Hayden, Tony Holt and Betty Robinson. Gary Griffin presented the Mighty Oak Award, for long and steady service to Robert Shaw who has tended the Whiting Parcel and Iron Mountain in Ashford since the 1980s. The Sam Dodd Award for a specific project in Stewardship was presented to Joe Charron for his 10 years of service at Pigeon Swamp in Lebanon.

Greg and Mona Anderson presented the Conservation Awards to the group and person who best embody the ideals of JT. The group award went to Ecohouse at UConn, a group of like-minded students who live and work together to promote conservation. Kelsey Sullivan and Andrew Brown accepted the award. Professor Mark Westa is their adviser. The individual award went to Hill Bullard, President of JT from 2001-2005, tireless marker of JT boundaries, and most recently lead trombonist of the Juniper Hill Jumpers Dixieland/Jazz band that gave a benefit concert for JT in February.

The meeting adjourned at 8:13.

The meeting was followed by a talk by Thomas Worthly, Assistant Extension Professor at UConn, about *Invasive Species* (specifically Japanese barberry) in *Connecticut Woodlands*.



## TREASURER'S REPORT

Because of the change of the fiscal year to years beginning on July 1, the latest audited financial statements are those for 6/30/12. The report below will refer to the latest unaudited statements, those of 2/28/13. Copies of the 6/30/12 statements are available at the JT office. Highlights of the detailed financial statements are as follows:

### Balance Sheet

- For the fiscal year to 2/28/13, total assets increased by \$398 thousand. This was due primarily to fund raising collections in the Legacy campaign. Cash was up \$330 thousand, investments were up \$68 thousand and there were no additions of land

### Income Statement

- In the Operating Fund, expenses exceeded income, with unrealized investment gains excluded, by a little over \$12 thousand. Expenses are well under budget, but income from contributions and dues were, at 2/28/13, also well below expectations. This may be due to the impact of the Legacy campaign. (At the date this report is being written, the total of dues collections and cash contributions to the operating fund is up \$3,200 from 2/28/13.) Again, we did not take any funds from investments as had been budgeted.

### Grist Mill

- Grist Mill finances are in good shape. We just had a scare as the furnace in the miller's house seemingly gave out. Luckily, it was able to be repaired. It appears that past maintenance had not been very thorough.

### Investments

- The Investment Committee meets several times a year and met in September with Leora Garner, of Laurel Grove Capital, the firm which manages the JT investment account. The committee and Leora Garner agreed that the present 70-30 asset allocation is still sensible. The committee remains enthusiastic about the job done by Laurel Grove Capital over the past few very difficult years. As this report is being written the value of JT investments is \$1,123,000. This does not include any of the Legacy campaign funds received to date.

### Legacy Fund

- The fund stands now at \$545,000 pledged to date. This includes very generous pledges from almost all of the Trust officers and Board members. In addition, we expect to shortly receive a gift of \$120,000.

As you all know, the Trust has been bequeathed most of Isabelle Atwood's estate. The process of accepting the bequest is in the works.

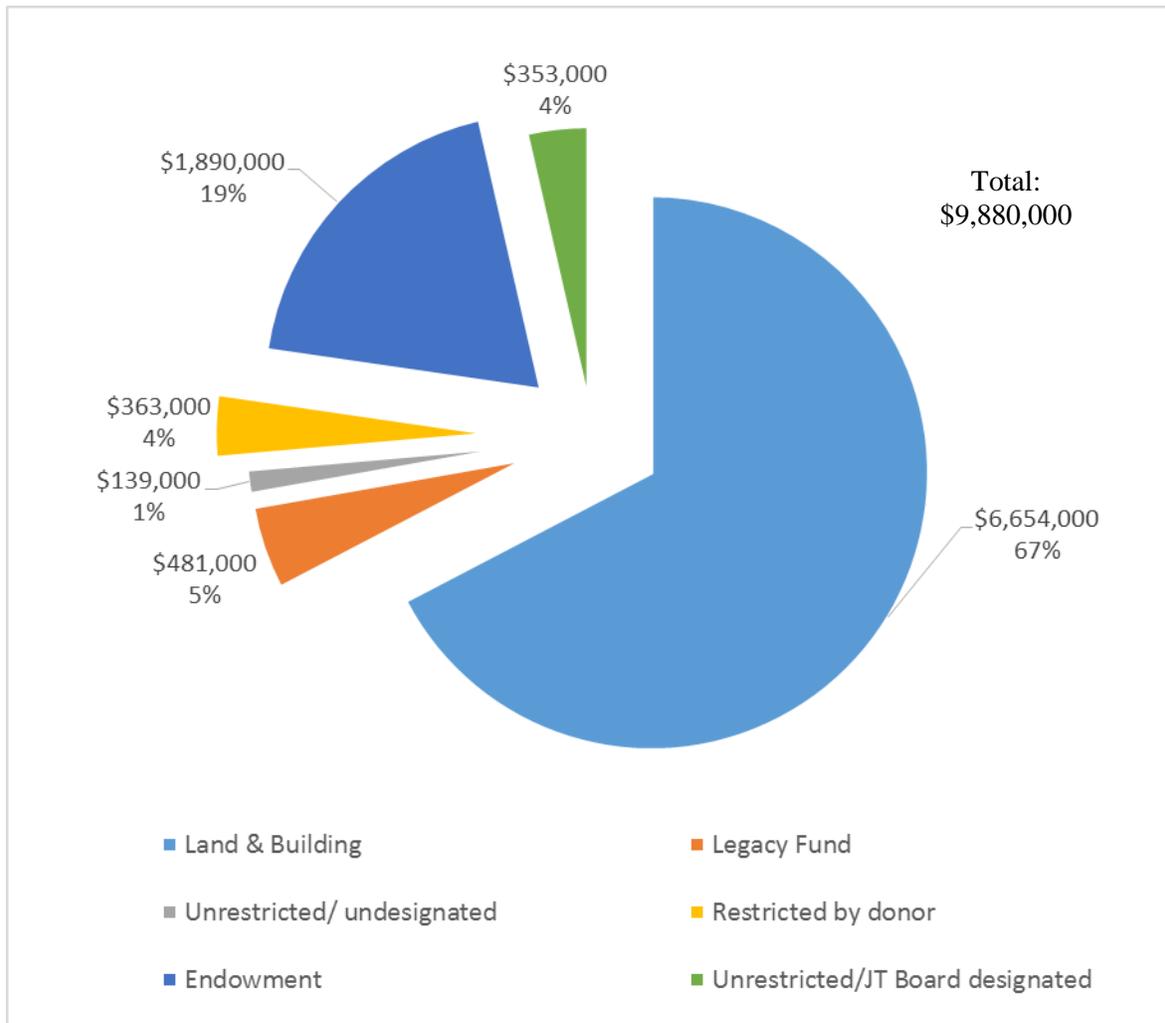
Each of us who are involved with Joshua's Trust thanks you for your continuing support. I am pleased to report that Trust operations continue to be in good shape and the financial condition of the Trust remains strong.

Respectfully submitted,

Hamilton Holt-Treasurer



### Balance Sheet Equity Accounts February 28, 2013





Photos taken by Trustee Ted Taigen and Steward Nord Yakovleff at some of the monthly walks held by the Outreach Committee.

## Joshua's Tract Conservation and Historic Trust, Inc.

P.O. Box 4, Mansfield Center, CT 06250-0004

Telephone and Fax: (860) 429-9023

Website: [www.joshuaslandtrust.org](http://www.joshuaslandtrust.org)

Email: [joshuastrust@snet.net](mailto:joshuastrust@snet.net)

