



### **Moss**

by Loudon Baker

Moss lays still  
on the forest land  
as quiet as a snake slithering  
in the grass  
soft, silky moss  
soft, silky moss

### **Wind**

by Ryley Ostman

the wind howling  
acorns dropping through the day  
as water glowing  
through the sun

### **An Old Tree**

by Meredith Williams

wise, old tree  
fallen down to the ground  
to sleep in peace

## **4TH GRADE POETS INSPIRED BY BRADLEY-BUCHANAN**

### **The Woods**

by Juan Nanclares

the sunlight shines through the trees  
and makes the water beautiful  
shades of light blue, teal, and navy blue

the dark swamps ripple  
as the long green blades  
sway in the wind

a distant circle in the water  
starts small  
and slowly expands

the leaves cover all the beauty underneath  
like mushrooms and mysterious stories  
behind the bark

### **The Forest**

by Makayla Godleski

little stump I know you're small  
you were once nice and tall  
see you're descendants grow, grow, grow  
more than you will ever know

little stick stuck to my shoe  
whatever should I do to you?  
I feel it in my shoelace  
that is not the right place

little leaf on my boot  
it's time to get off this route  
into your hometown  
the exact place you fell down

### **Green**

by Emily Giddings

rock with growing moss  
a beautiful green  
lying while the leaves toss

# JOSHUA'S TRUST NEWS

## JOSHUA'S TRUST

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The Atwood Farm

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Phone: 860-429-9023

### OFFICERS

President: Robert Beach

Vice President: Betsy Paterson

Secretary: Karen Zimmer

Treasurer: Gail Bruhn

### STAFF

Executive Director: Michael Hveem

Finance Administrator: Joyce Fountain

Volunteer Coordinator: Andy Woodcock

Development Administrator: Kailyn Murphy

Stewardship Coordinator: Ada Snodgrass

### BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Robert Beach, Mansfield

Gail Bruhn, Mansfield

Marie Cantino, Mansfield

Charles Eaton, Mansfield

John Hankins, Mansfield

Erin King, Mansfield

Scott Matthies, Chaplin

Chris McKleroy, Hampton

Betsy Paterson, Mansfield

Marilyn Schreiber, Willington

Terry Wakeman, Ashford

Karen Zimmer, Mansfield



The accreditation seal recognizes land conservation organizations that meet national standards for excellence, uphold the public trust and ensure that conservation efforts are permanent.

## HAZY DAYS OF SUMMER

by Rob Beach

*Summertime, and the livin' is easy*

*Fish are jumpin', and the cotton is high.*

*Bring back those lazy, crazy, hazy days of summer.*



In the life cycle of an eight year old, the

Gershwins and Nat King Cole got it right. When summer rolled around, living was easy. We reveled in playing outside after supper. We fell asleep listening to the sonorous tones of Red Barber or Vin Scully reporting the exploits of Pee-wee Reese, Jackie Robinson and Duke Snider on the newfangled transistor radio. We ate fresh tomato sandwiches on white bread. A symphony of crickets and tree toads provided background music through the screens of open windows; no air conditioning sullied the natural rhythms. In Maine, loons sent shivers down our spines with their haunting calls.

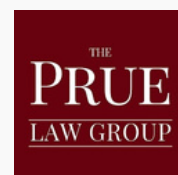
Times and people change, and memories are not always reliable or truly representative. It nonetheless seems clear that many of us have tended to wall off the outdoors so that it cannot penetrate our lives as it once did. In summer, our technological wizardry allows us to go from air conditioned stores and gyms to air conditioned homes in air conditioned cars. The windows are shut tight: no need

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## THANK YOU TO OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS



**StanleyBlack&Decker**







# 2022 ANNUAL MEETING

by Nancy Silander

"How are you?" "Wow – it's so good to see you in person!" These comments were overheard as over sixty Trust members gathered at the Eagleville Community Hall for the 56th annual meeting of the Trust, the first in-person one since 2019. After a short social half hour enjoying food and drink (prepared by the Education and Outreach Committee) and socializing, President Rob Beach called the meeting to order with a witty poem reflecting the travails of the past two years but how JT thrived even so.

The minutes from the virtual meeting in April 2021, were approved by those who had attended virtually in 2021. The Trustee election was then held. Two long-time Trustees have used up their term limits – Warren Church and Nancy Silander. Paul Pribula has also left the board. In their place, Marie Cantino, Charlie Eaton and Erin King started

their first terms, and Betsy Paterson and Karen Zimmer were elected to their third terms. The Treasurer's report could not be presented as the treasurer had been unavoidably delayed overseas. Michael Hveem, the Executive Director, gave remarks on the success the Trust has had this year in preserving several large parcels of land in Chaplin.

A number of awards were announced from both 2020 and this year (there were no awards in 2021). The Bolton Land Trust received the 2020 group conservation award for their work in conserving land, and the 2020 individual conservation award went to Gail Bruhn for her work in ensuring the Trust is financially in a stable position. The 2022 individual conservation award went to the town manager

*Continued on page 5*



**Top left:** Bolton Land Trust receiving the group conservation Award from Trust President, Rob Beach.

**Top right:** Executive Director, Michael Hveem presents the Madge Manfred Award for 2022 to Ann Dunnack.

**Bottom right:** JT members enjoy social time.





# JOSHUA'S TRUST NEWS

## TREES FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

by Charley McCaughtry

If you walk along the Fenton River downstream from the Grist Mill bridge you will see new plantings of tree seedlings. On May 10th, volunteers from Joshua's Trust and the Thames Valley Chapter of Trout Unlimited planted White Pine and Black Walnut seedlings along both the east and west sides of the Fenton River. It is hoped these native trees will thrive and grow to give the river bank protective root structure and a shade canopy to help the river stay cool. Native fish and aquatic life need clean, cold water to survive, and keeping a shade canopy over our rivers helps keep the water cooler.

Trout Unlimited is the nation's largest clean, cold water conservation organization working through local chapters like Thames Valley Trout Unlimited. Thames Valley has 450 members working with state, federal, and local organizations like Joshua's Trust on stream conservation projects and river clean ups throughout eastern Connecticut. It is projects, like this tree planting and stream protection, where Joshua's Trust and Trout Unlimited can work together and make a difference for all. The future looks good for more protective projects from Joshua's Trust and the Thames Valley of Trout Unlimited.



### WANT TO SEE MORE OF JOSHUA'S TRUST?

*Follow us on social media!*



@joshuastrust @joshuas\_trust @JoshuasTrust\_ joshuastrust.org





## ANNUAL MEETING (CONTINUED)

of Columbia Steve Everett – for his efforts in preserving 600 acres of forest land in Columbia. The 2022 award group conservation award went to Sustainable Connecticut for their work locally and statewide on environment and conservation. In addition, the Madge Manfred award for extraordinary volunteer service was given to Charles McCaughtry in 2020, and to Ann Dunnack in 2022. Both awardees will have their names inscribed on a trail kiosk. In addition, John Hankins, Steward Chair, presented the Mighty Oak Award (2020) to Jim Russel and the Sam Dodd Award (2020) to Terry Wakeman.

The speaker, Lynn Stoddard from Sustainable Connecticut, gave an informative talk about the organization and what they have accomplished since their initial beginning in 2017. Sustainable CT was created by towns, for towns as a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization by municipal leaders including Trustee Betsy Paterson, and residents from across the state, as well as people from key agencies, nonprofits and businesses who partnered to develop the program during 2016 and 2017. The Institute for Sustainable Energy at Eastern Connecticut State University leads and coordinates program development.

## BOOK GROUP FINISHES 2021-2022

by Robert and Kristine Thorson



The JT Book Critters finished its 2021-2022 season on Sunday, June 5. The weather was splendid for our outdoor meeting (with optional chocolate) before we hiked to the beaver lodge on the UConn Forest Trail.

At our May meeting we discussed *Flower Confidential* by Amy Stewart, a revelatory take on breeding, growing and selling flowers, focusing on the international cut flower industry. Our April read was a fascinating memoir titled *Eat Like a Fish* written by Bren Smith, a fisherman turned seaweed farmer in Connecticut's Thimble Islands.

These are the books we read earlier this year. March: *No Impact Man* by Colin Beavan. February: *The Book of Hope* by Jane Goodall and Douglas Abrams. January: *Entangled Life* by Merlin Sheldrake.

December: *Owls of the Eastern Ice* by Jonathan C. Slaght. November: *The Archipelago of Hope* by Gleb Raygorodetsky. October: *Finding the Mother Tree* by Suzanne Simard.

## Membership

Membership is given for one year to anyone who gives at least one dollar to Joshua's Trust. Our members are critical to the mission of Joshua's Trust and have the important role of voting on new trustees and other issues at our annual meeting every April. Become a member of JT today by returning the envelope in this newsletter.



# JOSHUA'S TRUST NEWS

## MEET OUR NEW TRUSTEES



**Name:** Marie Cantino

**Town of Residence:** Mansfield

**How long have you been involved with Joshua's Trust?**

"About six years as a volunteer"

**Why did you first get involved with the Trust?**

"I love hiking and my property is behind Whetten woods. I wanted to help fight barberry in that property."

**What's your favorite Joshua's Trust property and why?**

"Hard to pick. . . but I do love Church Farm. When you are in the middle of the property it is SO quiet."

**Name:** Erin King

**Town of Residence:** Mansfield

**How long have you been involved with Joshua's Trust?**

"For about five years I think through volunteering at work parties and stewarding."

**Why did you first get involved with the Trust?**

"I wanted to get more involved with conservation organizations locally and decided to volunteer at some of the weekly work parties. From there I took on the co-stewardship of 2 properties."

**What's your favorite Joshua's Trust property and why?**

"Tinkerville Brook. I co-steward there with my husband so I may be a little biased but it is a beautiful property with lots of mountain laurel, blueberry and native wildflowers that adjoin the brook. It also has a wetland with an active beaver and the remains of an old mill."



**What's your favorite Joshua's Trust property and why?**

In close proximity to our home is Coney Rock Preserve. We hike this preserve year round and appreciate the views and easy connection to other trails, including the Nipmuck and Dorwart Family Preserve. When working at UConn my other favorite was Whetten Woods. I would often run this trail, especially on hot days. Its closeness to Storrs Downtown, and well-maintained trails made this a go-to spot.

**Name:** Charlie Eaton

**Town of Residence:** Mansfield

**How long have you been involved with Joshua's Trust?**

"I have benefited from JT for decades, hiking and running JT trails."

**Why did you first get involved with the Trust?**

"My love and appreciation for JT trails and open land motivated me to look for ways to give back. When approached several times by a current Trustee, I decided it was time to make the plunge into this important not-for-profit organization."



## HAZY DAYS OF SUMMER (CONTINUED)

to cool the backyard. All the while we can stare at screens; if feeling especially adventuresome, we can watch a nature video on any number of streaming services.

Even putting aside the energy consumption necessary to attain the level of superficial comfort, consider what we are losing. Screens can help inform us *about* nature, but they keep us from being *in* nature amid the sounds, sights and smells of outdoor life. The most likely conservationists are those who experienced the outdoors when young - even those who sweated and itched a bit. Immersion in a summer evening leads to an exhilaration, calm and satisfaction that can't be induced artificially.

So don't let the summer slip by without jumping in. Enjoy quiet strolls in the woods. Sleep out, with children, and listen to the sounds of life around you. Go to an evening baseball game - especially in an intimate, small town ballpark. Check out a Joshua's Trust property. Screens rarely nourish the soul. We can watch a nature video on any number of streaming services.



**The younger generation enjoys the first warm days of May during our Maypole Dance accompanied by the Mansfield Middle School Fiddlers**

## AUGUST IS MAKE A WILL MONTH

Do you have a will? No matter your age, everyone should have a will. No one wants to think about it, but there will come a day for all of us when we will no longer walk this earth. A will ensures that your assets go to the people, charities, and organizations that you care about, even when you are no longer here. Not only that, but it will save time and stress for your loved-ones when you pass. Your will is your legacy.

Your legacy can start today. Thanks to the generosity of anonymous donors, if you notify Joshua's Trust that you have included the Trust in your will, our generous donors will give \$750 to Joshua's Trust today, up to \$10,000.

To help you with this process, we have compiled a list of local estate attorneys that you can contact regarding your estate. This can be found on our website.

Preserve and conserve land for generations today and tomorrow by including Joshua's Trust in your will. Visit [joshuastrust.org/bequest-challenge](https://joshuastrust.org/bequest-challenge) to learn more and to fill out the form to notify us of the Trust's inclusion in your will, or contact Kailyn Murphy at [kailyn.kowolenko@joshuastrust.org](mailto:kailyn.kowolenko@joshuastrust.org) for more information.

### THE GURLEYVILLE GRIST MILL IS OPEN FOR THE SUMMER

Come for a tour of this historic property. Learn about the workings of the Grist Mill from one of our docents and enjoy the views of the Fenton River. (Maybe check out the new plantings mentioned on page 4?)

Open Sundays from 1-5pm.

JOSHUA'S TRACT  
CONSERVATION AND HISTORIC TRUST, INC.  
**P.O. BOX 4**  
**MANSFIELD CENTER, CT 06250**

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# GET INSPIRED BY NATURE

**Take a drawing workshop with local artist, Charley McCaughtrey**

July 16 at 10:00 am

*Gurleyville Grist Mill, Mansfield Center*

**Do a writing workshop with JT blogger, George Jacobi**

September 17th from 1-3:30 pm

*Knowlton Hill, Ashford*

**For the full calendar of upcoming events and to register, visit  
[joshuastrust.org/events](http://joshuastrust.org/events).**