

Member Registration

Yes, I want to preserve the unique character of the town of Harvard by joining the Harvard Conservation Trust. Membership is on a calendar year basis and is tax-deductible. Make check payable to Harvard Conservation Trust and send to PO Box 31, Harvard, MA 01451.

☐ \$10 student

☐ \$25 Individual

☐ \$50 Family

☐ \$100 Friend

☐ Other \$ _____

Name _____ Telephone _____

Address _____ Email _____

If your employer will match your contribution, please enclose the application form.

The following committees of the Trust invite your participation. Please check any that interest you.

Conservation	Stewardship	<input type="checkbox"/>	event planning
<input type="checkbox"/> lands	<input type="checkbox"/> trail maintenance	<input type="checkbox"/>	membership
Administration	<input type="checkbox"/> land monitoring	<input type="checkbox"/>	publicity
<input type="checkbox"/> finance	Discovery	<input type="checkbox"/>	website
<input type="checkbox"/> fundraising	<input type="checkbox"/> walks & talks	<input type="checkbox"/>	photography
<input type="checkbox"/> archives	<input type="checkbox"/> tree-for-all	<input type="checkbox"/>	graphic design / posters
	<input type="checkbox"/> newsletter & writing	<input type="checkbox"/>	printing / mailing
	<input type="checkbox"/> education		



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CONSERVATION
TRUST

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HARVARD, MA 01451

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Harvard, MA 01451

Rural Route Patron
or Boxholder



Harvard Conservation Trust
Legacy Review

*Trustees of the Harvard Conservation Trust,
October 2009*
Victor Normand, President
Molly Cutler | Becca Day-Newsham
Dennis Delaney | Jim Elkind
Priscilla Endicott | Steve Finnegan
Phil Knoettner | Margaret Nestler
Russell Shappy | Will Stevenson
Erin Ash Sullivan | Susan Tarrant | Sue Toll

Trustees Emeriti: Frank Coolidge | Larry Finnegan
Erhart Muller | Edward Squibb

This is a publication of the Harvard Conservation Trust. Contributors to this issue are: Ken Cochrane, Gail Coolidge, Molly Cutler, Becca Day-Newsham, Victor Normand, Erin Sullivan & Sue Toll.

Design: **ADAMS**
Advertising, Design, And Marketing Strategy

Membership is open to all. To join the Trust, send your tax-deductible check for dues (\$10 student, \$25 individual, \$50 family). Make checks payable to Harvard Conservation Trust, and send to the address below.

Harvard Conservation Trust
PO Box 31
Harvard, MA 01451
Tel: 978.456.9292
www.harvardconservationtrust.org



President's Note
Conservation, Stewardship & Discovery

This newsletter, coming just before the Trust’s Annual Meeting, is sometimes used to acknowledge the passing of the gavel from the old to the new leadership. So it is that the thirteenth President of the Harvard Conservation Trust takes this opportunity to bid farewell. The fall newsletter is also often used to review Trust activities over the past year and to put forth a vision for the months ahead. I would like to broaden that scope to reflect on the past several years and extend the vision further into the future.

The commitment and hard work of those Trustees who allowed me to guide the Trust over the past four years, deserve the real credit for what has been accomplished, which includes bringing into conservation

over 130 additional acres of land, increasing protected land held by the Trust by over 30% to 568 acres.

While this land conservation was occurring, the Trust undertook some deep self-reflection to validate and reshape its core mission. This process, which took more than a year, resulted in a comprehensive mission statement, adopted by the Trustees wherein three goals were articulated: Land Conservation, Stewardship of protected lands, and Discovery which involves using protected land to educate and involve the community. This re-focused vision brought forth a major Capital Campaign, which is well on its way toward achieving its goal to raise \$2.5 million.

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President's Note
Continued

The time and effort spent by current and former Trustees studying 35 years of history also led to changes in the structure of the Trust and the decision to build for the future by creating and filling the position of Executive Director and opening a small office on Ayer Road to centralize our efforts and better coordinate our business.

Finally, the long held vision to develop senior housing at Barba's Point near the Town Center took a major step forward this past year with the acquisition of the Barba house and the access it provides on Still River Road to the larger development parcel. A Barba Committee is convening with renewed enthusiasm and broad community support for the project.

So, I am pleased to say that the Trust has been true to its mission to preserve the rural character of Harvard. Land conservation has advanced over the past four years and more importantly; the Trust is positioned for greater success in the years to come. Although I am leaving as President, I will continue to support the work of the Trust to protect our beautiful town.

- Victor Normand



Above: Marion Stoddart, early champion and defender of the Nashua River and its clean-up efforts, shown paddling with her supporters while being filmed for the documentary, "Marion Stoddart: The Work of 1000". The Trust was proud to be amongst the films' many contributors.



Do you ever wonder?

Who helps clear the trails in town?

What the yellow triangles are on the trail routes?

Who issues the guide, *Harvard Trails*?

Where the treasure hunts are?

Who distributes the saplings to town residents each spring?

Who covets the open space in town enough to make it their mission?

Answers at:
The Harvard Conservation Trust – we're your local, non-profit land trust – where conservation is our middle name.



A non-profit on a mission

We actively seek to preserve:

- Harvard's rural and agricultural character;
- Open lands for outdoor education, recreation, and enjoyment;
- Areas of historical significance or natural beauty;
- The Town's water resources, marshland, swamps, wetlands, and wildlife; and
- Buildings (including affordable housing), monuments and sites of historical, educational, and environmental significance.



The Harvard Conservation Trust Welcomes Marylynn Gentry

The Harvard Conservation Trust has selected Marylynn Gentry to be the first executive director in its 36-year history.

Gentry has spent the last 15 years in the land protection field. She is a board member of the Sudbury Valley Trustees, a regional land trust based in Sudbury, where she served as president for the last four years. A Wayland resident, Gentry has volunteered on her town's Conservation Commission and Community Preservation Committee.

A Vermont native and graduate of the University of Vermont, Gentry has always valued open spaces. She also holds master's degrees from Penn State and MIT and received the 2004 Conservation Award from the New England Wildflower Society.

As executive director, Gentry will oversee administrative operations, budgeting,

membership development, education and outreach. She will also collaborate with the Conservation Trust's volunteer board to further the nonprofit's mission of preserving Harvard's unique character and its valuable resources.



HCT president Vic Normand believes that Gentry's qualifications make her an excellent fit for the job and that her hiring comes at a crucial juncture. "Over time," he said, "our mission of protecting open space has become more critical. With an executive director in place, we're better able to meet our conservation goals."

Gentry's start coincides with the opening of the Trust's new (and first) office, located in the historic Blanchard House on Ayer Road, adjacent to the Maxant Land. "We're delighted about the new office," says Normand. "We're happy to finally have a centralized place where we can conduct business."

"I am delighted to be joining such a wonderful organization," said Gentry. "Harvard is a beautiful town and I look forward to playing a role in preserving its natural environment."

Harvard Conservation Trust Upcoming Events

Activity	Day & Date	Time	Place
Harvard Conservation Trust Annual Meeting Speaker: Ben Watson - Slow Food Foundation for Biodiversity Conserving New England's Apple Heritage & Culture	Wednesday, November 18th	7:30pm	Harvard Historical Society, Still River
Annual New Year's Day Walk	Friday, January 1st	noon	Harris Land & Vaughn Hill please park at roadside on Bare Hill Rd., Bolton (extension of Scott Rd., Harvard)
Appalachian Trail Presentation Speaker: Roger Tetreault	Thursday, January 28th Weatherdate: February 4th	6:30pm	Volunteers Hall, Harvard Public Library
Life in Vernal Pools Speaker: Rick Roth of Cape Ann Vernal Pond Team	Thursday, April 1st	8:00pm	Volunteers Hall, Harvard Public Library
Tree-for-All	Saturday & Sunday, April 10th & 11th		Transfer Station & Harvard Center

We hope to see you around town...