

# The Preservationist

[www.hartlandlandtrust.org](http://www.hartlandlandtrust.org) P.O. Box 12 East Hartland, CT 06027 Spring 2015  
[www.facebook.com/HartlandLandTrust](http://www.facebook.com/HartlandLandTrust) [hartlandCTlandtrust@gmail.com](mailto:hartlandCTlandtrust@gmail.com)

## HARTLAND LAND TRUST

### Annual Forum:

### *Insects in the Garden ..... Friend, Foe, or Escargot?*

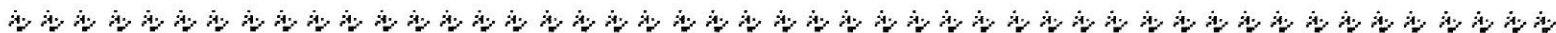
Gardeners and photographers! Come join us for our Annual Forum June 5 at Hartland School, 7 p.m. to hear professional gardener, Pam Gilpin and see her beautiful photography of garden critters. Pam is a board member of the Newport Tree Society and past member of the Newport Tree Commission. She has been gardening professionally for 24 years and

photographing the insect world for eight. So many of us have gardens, it will be fun and informative to learn what creatures are sharing our plots—which do we want to keep as permanent residents and which ones do we want to exvite. What’s buggin’ you? Come with your questions and discoveries.

There is no admission charge, but donations to the land trust are gratefully accepted.

All photo submissions from the 2015 HLT calendar will be on display.

Refreshments will be served after the program.



### *Plant A Row for the Food Bank*

And speaking of gardens...when you are planning your garden, include a row for the Hartland Food Bank Neighbors Helping Neighbors. The Connecticut Food Bank notes on its website “Plant a Row for the Hungry was launched in Connecticut in 2006 to help local food pantries. The program began more than a decade ago when a former Garden Writers Association of America president wrote a column to encourage local gardeners to add an extra row of vegetables to benefit a local hunger-relief program.” The nutritious benefits from fresh produce are well known and often scarce at food banks, so please sow a row for our neighbors.



### *Hartland Photo Calendar 2016*

Our 2015 calendar was so well-received, we are putting together another photo calendar for 2016. Each month’s page will feature the flora, fauna and landscapes of Hartland along with dates for local meetings and events and interesting nature facts. You may contribute no more than four (4) photos for selection. All photos must have been taken in Hartland and submitted digitally at the highest resolution by July 11, 2015, to [HLTphotocalendar@gmail.com](mailto:HLTphotocalendar@gmail.com). Please include photographer’s name and identify location. Once again thanks go to HLT member Carole Vincent and her daughter Traci Vincent for assisting Director Kris Anderson and the Membership & Fundraising Committee in this project! Questions, call Carole at 860-653-4004 or email [HLTphotocalendar@gmail.com](mailto:HLTphotocalendar@gmail.com).



#### HLT Officers:

**Fred Jones,**  
*President*

**Susan Pearson,**  
*Secretary*

**Rebecca Huntley**  
*Treasurer*

#### HLT Directors:

**Kris Anderson**

**Alana Bordewieck**

**Joyce Mueller**

**Sue Murray**

**Lorri Wood**

**Mark Ziarnik**

**Wade Cole, ex officio**

The Hartland Land Trust, incorporated Oct. 2006, is a not-for-profit, 501(3)(c) organization. All officers and directors are volunteers.

### *CT Trails Day*

HLT will represent Hartland by sponsoring a hike for CT Trails Day, an effort by the CT Forest and Park Association (CFPA) to include every CT town in an outdoor activity. Our 3 mile hike will be at Hurricane Brook Trail, off Route 20 East, with Hartland resident and HLT volunteer, Steve Emmons on Saturday, June 6 from 9 a.m. to 11a.m. We will meet across from the Wilderness School. Please bring water, sunscreen, insect repellent and dress for a hike. Please no pets. No rain date.

“Climb the mountains and get their good tidings. Nature's peace will flow into you as sunshine flows into trees. The winds will blow their own freshness into you, and the storms their energy, while cares will drop off like autumn leaves.”  
*John Muir*

**President's Message** from Fred Jones

Greetings,  
As you read this newsletter, **Earth Day** April 22, is approaching. We have reason to celebrate our little piece of earth...Hartland. Did you know that Hartland ranks 1st out of 169 towns in the state with the most forest cover, about 83.5%! The benefits of Hartland's dense forest cover are far reaching. It provides the clean water we drink, the clean air we breathe and sustains the diverse species of wildlife and plants that we enjoy as Hartland residents. Although around 76% of our town's land is open space, in its natural state protected as State Forest and Water Company property, we are not exempt from our vigilance in the preservation of land. No town in Connecticut is insulated from the adverse environmental impacts that result from forest fragmentation, increasing population (urban sprawl), invasive plants and insects and pollution to name a few. Indeed, adverse environmental impacts know no boundaries. We all have a responsibility of being good stewards of our land and making each day Earth Day.

For the past nine years, the Hartland Land Trust's charge, as put forth by the 10 year Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD 2007) has been to preserve the rural character of our town. We are actively engaged in our community, reaching out with our speaker series programs, photo exhibits, calendar project, annual trail hike, booth at the fireman's carnival, support of the Salmon in Schools program, and this annual newsletter.

I want to thank our dedicated board, volunteers, members and donors who have been instrumental in the continued support of our organization and *Hartland*, whose land and people are a most precious resource.

Sincerely,  
Fred

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**Land Conservation and Stewardship**

by Mark Ziarnik

Are you interested in protecting the natural beauty and wild habitat of our community? Maybe the Hartland Land Trust can help you.

Many people believe that land trusts are seeking to acquire land and take it out of circulation in the name of "protecting" it. While it is true that the Hartland Land Trust does own a piece of property that was donated to us (The Bassett-Kell Preserve in W. Hartland), land acquisition is not our focus or even a priority. Instead, we are here to be a resource for Hartland landowners.

Most property owners wish to be good stewards of the wild habitat and natural resources on their land and often desire to conserve the land for future generations. Not uncommonly, however, landowners may be uncertain of how best to proceed or what sort of resources might be available to support them in achieving their vision. Starting from scratch to research the options can be intimidating and time consuming, and many landowners just don't have the personal expertise or time to devote to it. The Hartland Land Trust is willing to help. We may not have all of the answers right away, but we have an extensive network of contacts with a wide range of expertise that can answer your questions - scientific, legal and financial. We aspire to be facilitators in helping you to refine and bring your vision to reality. Interested in learning more? Please contact us at 860-379-5868.

**Membership and Fundraising** by Lorri Wood

2014 was a busy year for HLT. We had our booth at the Fireman's Carnival and the 2 Left Feet Blues Festival where we sold baked goods as well as caps and calendars. We had a wonderful time at both venues meeting up with friends and neighbors. Our 2015 HLT photo calendars sold out! We held our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Flatbread Fundraiser, enjoying delicious food and the opportunity to win some fantastic gifts. We now have HLT listed under *smile.amazon.com*, so choose us when you are ordering: 0.5% will go to HLT where every penny counts. Please join or renew your HLT memberships to help our endeavors to preserve our beautiful Hartland. Thank you for all your support over the year!

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**Outreach & Education** by Alana Bordewieck

We continue to assist the Salmon in-Schools project with Director Sue Murray delivering spring water for the tanks and Director Alana Bordewieck and member Harald Bordewieck helping with preparation for release of the fry late April. On Earth Day HLT will collaborate with Hartland School to sponsor **Bear Reality** with Felicia Oertner in two assembly presentations for grades 1-4 and 5-8. HLT is invited to participate in **STEM** night April 23rd with an informational table at the school. To promote understanding of wildlife and conservation, we present speakers and donate books to the town and school libraries.

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**Deer Carol,**

*What has happened to the Monarch Butterflies? I only saw one last year!*

**Heartbroken in Hartland**

**Dear Heartbroken in Hartland,**

According to scientists, the Monarch Butterfly has experienced a 90% population decline in the last 20 years. It's hypothesized this decline is caused by climate extremes and the widespread use of herbicides. Herbicides, used to control competitive weed growth in field crops, have aided in the elimination of their habitat. Milkweed, usually found growing in fields, roadsides, and vacant lots, is an essential host plant for the butterfly. Recently, U.S. Fish and Wildlife announced that it will conduct a review of the status of Monarch butterflies. This could lead to Endangered Species status and subsequent habitat preservation efforts.

If you want to help, plant milkweed, or at least allow existing milkweed to stand. This will give the butterflies an undisturbed place to lay their eggs, allow their larvae to feed, and provide a safe haven to cocoon inside their dangling chrysalis where the miraculous metamorphosis from caterpillar to butterfly takes place.

Carol Blouin, a Master Wildlife Conservationist, lives in Hartland. Wildlife questions for Deer Carol may be forwarded to the HLT Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/HartlandLandTrust](http://www.facebook.com/HartlandLandTrust).



## Speaker Series by Rebecca Huntley

" Each species is a masterpiece, a creation assembled with extreme care and genius." **Edward O. Wilson**

**Gerri Griswold**, a Licensed Wildlife Rehabilitator and Educator, and Director of Administration and Development at White Memorial Conservation Center gave our Annual Forum audience an up close look at **Porcupines**. The porcupine, the world's third largest rodent, with over 40 species around the world is the only animal in North America to have antibiotics in its skin. Porcupines have very sharp teeth, which can cut through bone. The nose and belly, the only areas without quills, are vulnerable spots. Their barbed quills are modified hairs used only for defense - quickly detached, not thrown. Porcupines have terrible eyesight but great senses of hearing and smell. With orange teeth in front and white in back, they need to chew constantly, as their teeth grow at a rapid rate. Strict herbivores they eat lily pads, apples, pears, twigs, roots, stems, and berries in summer, and in winter conifer needles and bark. Tempted by buds at the ends of branches, porcupines fall out of trees often! They laze in dens at night or in trees by day, do not hibernate but sleep a lot. The porcupine mother gives birth to one porcupet per year, with soft quills that will harden within hours, and a life span of 15 to 25 years. Native Americans used the quills to decorate clothing and baskets. The edible porcupine was an important winter food source of Canada's boreal forest natives.

**EJ Machowski**, CT State Fisheries Biologist, took us back to the events that created the geological aspects of our state with **The History of Fishes in Connecticut**. Four major CT landscapes were created 500 million years ago by plate tectonics, which pushed up and formed our topography. Different underlying rock conditions set the stage for the productivity of aquatic life in our three major water basins and four coastal basins. Connecticut has 425 lakes, ponds, and reservoirs covering 56,000 acres, and 6,587 miles of river and stream resources. The 23 native freshwater fish species may have come into our waters through adaptation of the saltwater gene pool migrating via freshwater routes but were also actively transported by humans. Colonial settlement had the largest human impact on freshwater fish distribution. Widely manipulated for human use, waterways were a source of food, transportation, power, and irrigation. 28 additional freshwater fish species had been introduced into Connecticut by the mid 1800's. Deforestation, increased water temperature, pollution, sedimentation, altered water flow, and plant invasives contribute to the loss of native fish species. Atlantic salmon and American shad are all but gone, and brook trout disappearing. The Clean Water Act and other restoration efforts are helping to improve large rivers, with grass roots efforts and angler awareness helping local streams and rivers. Small streams continue to be threatened, so widespread environmental consciousness is needed.

Joining the presentation was **Deb Costolnick**, Hartland School science teacher and director of the Hartland **Salmon-in-Schools** program. With a grant from the Farmington River Watershed Association, Deb Costolnick has expanded the Hartland Salmon-in-Schools program from sixth grade to include third grade and a second tank. In 1996 the CT River Salmon Association began the Salmon-in-Schools program, with 65 schools currently participating. In December of each year, 200 eggs are delivered to the classroom where they are kept in a 20 gallon tank enclosed in a styrofoam chilling unit, maintained at a constant 38 degree temperature.

A gravel base, fresh cold water and darkness replicate the natural setting of a stream bed in which salmon lay eggs. The eggs hatch in the tank in February and are released into the Farmington River in Barkhamsted in late April or early May. There the salmon fry will be imprinted to sense their home stream to which few will return after two years of migration to Greenland and Canada. They must first undergo smoltification, the process of getting ready to live in a saltwater environment. The historical range of salmon was widespread and plentiful, into Vermont, Maine, and New York's Hudson River. By 1810, nearly all salmon had disappeared from the Connecticut River. Salmon legacy efforts continue, thanks to programs like Salmon-in-Schools. Please visit the Hartland Salmon-in-Schools website: <https://sites.google.com/site/hartlandsalmoninschools/>.

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### Reminder!

March to November please take in bird feeders, suet stations, and secure garbage and animal feed, so neighboring bears do not become a nuisance.

## Land Conservation Fund

Would you like to remember or honor someone who loved the natural beauty of Hartland? You can do so through our Land Conservation Fund. If you would like to help the fund grow through an outright donation or contribution in memory of someone who has died or in recognition of a living supporter of conservation on Earth Day, a birthday or a special anniversary, please indicate the person's name and fund along with your donation on the membership/donation form enclosed or under Join/Donate on our website.

"We must strive to touch the land gently and care for it as true stewards...for those who follow us... may see that our mark on the land was one of respect and love."

**Robert B. Oetting** (1934-1990), wildlife researcher

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## The Dirty Dozen

On the morning of October 18 at the peak of fall color, a dozen HLT members planted potential color for spring on the Bassett - Kell property in West Hartland. Directors Kris Anderson, Alana Bordewieck, Fred Jones, Sue Murray, Susan Pearson and members Harald Bordewieck, Neil Gilpin, Jane Jones and the Murphy family: Siobhan, Bill, Liam and Hannah planted over 200 daffodil bulbs in memory and honor of Charlie Bassett. Thank you to **Shemin Nurseries** of Windsor, CT who donated the bulbs.



Special thanks to our youngest helpers Webelos Troop 121 Scout Liam for his digging prowess and kudos to Hannah who ran tirelessly from team to team all over the field with containers of bone meal to nourish the bulbs and blood meal to deter nibbling rodents. After battling rock and root to make the earth ready to receive the bulbs, the teams gathered for cider and donuts in celebration of a job well done. Thank you all!

## If I Am a Member of HLT...

### Do I have to attend meetings?

No. Although our meetings are open to the public and directors attend monthly (except for July, August and December), members are not required to attend meetings.

### What can I do as a member?

Send in your membership, renew or donate what your wallet can spare.

Attend our events open to all and drop something in the donation Jars.

Take a turn manning our Booth at the Firemen's Carnival.

Assist one of our committees according to interest and skills:

Membership & Fundraising (M & F)

Chair Lorri Wood,

Land Conservation & Stewardship (LC & S)

Chair Mark Ziarnik,

Outreach & Education (O & E)

Chair Alana Bordewieck

Send us your ideas for conservation, fundraisers, speakers, and events.

Sponsor or co-sponsor a speaker.

## Calendar of Events 2015

- ✿ **June 5 HLT Annual Forum - Insects in the Garden: Friend, Foe or Escargot?**  
with professional gardener Pam Gilpin,  
Hartland School, 7:00 p.m.
- ✿ **June 6 CT Trails Day Walk**, Hurricane Brook Trail off Rte 20 E with Steve Emmons, 9 a.m.-11 a.m.  
Dress appropriately including sturdy shoes; bring water, insect repellent and sunscreen.  
No pets. No rain date.
- ✿ **July 11 Deadline** for submissions for Photo Calendar 2016 to [HLTphotocalendar@gmail.com](mailto:HLTphotocalendar@gmail.com)  
N.B. All pictures must be taken in Hartland
- ✿ **Sept. 28 Speaker Series: Chestnuts** with Dr. Sandra Anagnostakis of the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station (CAES).  
7:30 p.m. Hartland School.
- ✿ **Oct. 20 Third Annual HLT Fundraiser at Flatbread Pizza**, 5-9 p.m. Canton, CT,
- ✿ **Nov. 23 Speaker Series: Bees** with Kimberly Stoner of CAES. 7:30 p.m. Hartland School

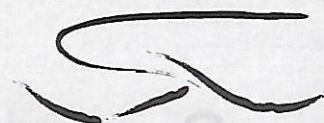
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MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION  
ENVELOPE ENCLOSED WITH

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P.O. Box 12  
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HARTLAND  
LAND TRUST



Working for the preservation and  
enjoyment of open space  
in our community

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