



Outreachers Dafney Shufelt, Anne-Marie Runfola and Alison Leschen sign up Ted Murphy as a new member at the Cocktails and Cool Tunes event held at the Silver Shores Shanty.



An enthusiastic crowd turned out at the Shanty event for live music, a new drink called the "300" and the chance to hang out with others who support open space in Falmouth.

## OUTREACH EFFORTS TARGET FRESH AUDIENCE, NEW MEMBERS

The Outreach Committee has been busy this fall, holding two special events to introduce people to T3C and to Falmouth's conservation lands. Cocktails and Cool Tunes for Conservation on September 13 brought a crowd to the Silver Shores Shanty in Falmouth Heights. Attendees enjoyed favorite local musicians, the "300," a cocktail concocted specially for the occasion, and the company of others who care about open space in Falmouth. Some had lived here for years, but weren't familiar with T3C. Others had moved to Falmouth only recently, and were excited to see the map of all the conservation land in town. More than a dozen translated their

enthusiasm into becoming new members. A hearty thank you to Ted Murphy who generously hosted us at the Shanty, recruited the musicians, and talked up the event on his Facebook page!

Next, committee members traded cocktail glasses and dancing shoes for bikes and neon apparel for the second annual Pedal to Parcels / Tour de Falmouth on September 28. About 40 people turned out to ride a 16-mile bike loop around town which was designed to travel past 16 conservation parcels. The riders (divided into five groups) stopped at many of these protected lands where the group leader and/or land steward explained the parcel's natural history, trails,

and acquisition story. These stops introduced people to the different areas, with the idea that they can return later and explore more on their own. Comments like, "This is great I've lived here for years and had no idea these places existed. I'll definitely be back with my wife/husband/dog," could be heard throughout the morning. The ride started and finished at Goodwill Park, which, acquired as a gift from Joseph Story Fay, was the first significant conservation parcel in the town of Falmouth. Participants lingered after the ride to continue conversations and enjoy newly harvested apples and bagels provided by Cape Cod Bagel.

Events such as Cocktails

and Cool Tunes and Pedal to Parcels have proven great fun for both volunteers and attendees, but they also serve the important function of attracting new members, the life blood of a vibrant nonprofit organization like T3C. With colder weather coming, the Outreach Committee is not going into hibernation. The annual speaker series, planned for winter and spring, is taking shape and will feature talks on such diverse topics as ticks, Cape Cod's water quality and New England's endangered wildlife. If you do not already receive email notices of upcoming events, please let us know and we will happily add you to the list (contact lhelfrich@300committee.org).



157 Locust Street  
Falmouth, MA 02540-2658

### GIFTS IN MEMORY OF...

- ♥ **Dick Backus** from Denise Backus
- ♥ **Carol Bissonnette** from Kathryn Paine
- ♥ **Kathy Cook** from Roger Cook
- ♥ **Charles & Lillian Crew** from William & Joanne Gilbrook
- ♥ **George DeMello** from Lorraine D. Witter
- ♥ **Mark Dooley** from Peter & Marion Dooley
- ♥ **Friederun & Holger Jannasch** from Hans & Elizabeth Jannasch
- ♥ **Pat Dwyer** from Leonard & Patty Johnson
- ♥ **Seth Harvey** from Andrea Watkins & Thomas Harvey
- ♥ **L.P. Hills and R. Hills** from Elizabeth Hills
- ♥ **Les Lessinger** from Johanna Lessinger
- ♥ **Dan McNichol** from Frank & Erika Messman
- ♥ **Nancy Mead Peters** from Paul & Jean Bukowski
- ♥ **Alphonse Micciche** from Helen Micciche
- ♥ **Rich Miner** from Leonard & Patty Johnson, Vicky & Pete Lowell
- ♥ **John Klein Robbenhaar** from Geraldine Klein Robbenhaar
- ♥ **Rosemary** from John Baptiste
- ♥ **Carol Bowles Tyndale** from Vicky & Pete Lowell
- ♥ **Mary E. Vaccaro** from William & Joanne Gilbrook
- ♥ **Donald S. Woodcock** from Mary Pat Woodcock
- ♥ **Yvonne** from Werner & Barbara Deuser

### GIFTS IN HONOR OF....

- ♥ **Alex Etkind** from Margot Morris & Jeff Palmer
- ♥ **Leonard Johnson** from R. Michael & Carolyn McNaught
- ♥ **Patricia & Leonard Johnson** from Carolyn Partan
- ♥ **Emily Kellndorfer** from Linda Pogue
- ♥ **Bruce & Alex Lancaster** from Barbara Callahan

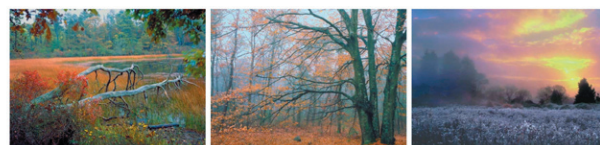
And special Gifts in Honor of Cynthia Aziz's run in the 2014 Falmouth Road Race, in Memory of her dad, John Aziz, from Anthony Aziz, Christine Aziz & Thomas Soszynski, Cynthia Aziz & Timothy Von der Embse, Hannah Aziz, Sharon Aylward, Christopher Baldwin & Mary Weld, Julie Bartlett, Lou & Maria Bonaiuto, Stephen & Roberta Brich, Barbara Burkholder, Lynn Calder, Robert Cook, Marsha Cozart, Lauren Cranford, Robert Crowley, Thomas & Carolyn Crozier, Barbara Dellinger, Diana Dow, Elizabeth Edwards, Barbara Gagnon, Alice Glover, James Gregoric & Nancy Rose Dow, Dawn Grocholski, Vernon & Ann Hebert, Aisha Khan, John Kolb, Jerry Levine, Denise Long, Robert Macpherson, Michelle Maidt, Janet Malkemes, Manley & Jennifer Roberts, Mona Saleh, Martha Schmitt, Claire & Edward Shapack, Karen Stanley, Janice Valder Offerman, Rosemary Schmid, Joan Vitale, Beth Von der Embse, Daniel & Janice Von der Embse, Jennifer Von der Embse, Anne Weber, Mike Young

We are grateful to the Falmouth Enterprise for its support in publishing this newsletter.

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## NOTECARDS MAKE GREAT HOLIDAY GIFTS!

T3C has sets of 10 beautiful photo cards for sale for \$20. All images are by the late Ned Manter, who was known locally as a talented nature photographer. The cards and envelopes come in a gold gift box with a clear cover and make wonderful gifts for the holidays.



Set of 10 greeting cards \$20.  
Photos by Ned Manter.



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**Tax Exempt # 22-2659529**

The 300 Committee is a private, non-profit land trust dedicated to preserving natural places in Falmouth for everyone to enjoy now and in the years to come.

Since 1986, The 300 Committee has taken a lead role to acquire treasured open space for conservation, recreation and water protection. In the last 29 years, more than 2,300 acres have been permanently protected through our efforts.

# Leaves

fall 2014

## T3C AND BBC PARTNER TO PROTECT SEVEN ACRES ON BUZZARDS BAY

In June, after two years of planning and negotiation, The 300 Committee Land Trust and the Buzzards Bay Coalition were thrilled to announce that 7.2 acres of private land on Black Beach in West Falmouth had been permanently protected through a conservation restriction. Preservation of this land is the first step toward the goal to protect a total of about 30 acres along this part of Falmouth's Buzzards Bay coast. Lifelong Falmouth resident Dan Shearer and his sister, Elizabeth Hills, sold a CR to the two environmental organizations to preserve this lovely part of shoreline that combines a variety of habitat: dunes, coastal shrub and heathland along 900 feet of beach.

"We applaud the Shearers' decision to protect one of the most beautiful and ecologically vital landscapes on Cape Cod and hope it will inspire other landowners to follow their lead," said Leonard Johnson, T3C President.

The protected acres are part of a 10.2-acre property that includes a house that has undergone several renovations in its lifetime; Mr. Shearer's parents built a fishing shack in the 1950s, and in its original form the structure had no running water. The entire property today



The 7.2-acre Shearer CR on Black Beach in West Falmouth protects a variety of habitat—dunes, coastal shrub and beatland—all of which are becoming rare on Cape Cod.

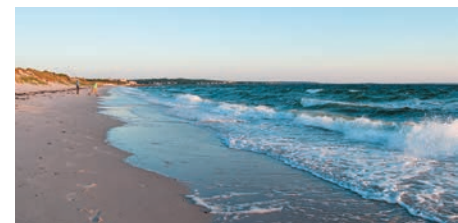


T3C's Jessica Whritenour (r) with Deb and Dan Shearer at the July Annual Meeting.

is on the market for just under \$5 million.

"We love the land and wanted to save it and keep it open," said Mr. Shearer. "The CR only reduced our tax bill by \$128, so we didn't pursue it for the tax reduction." Due to the property's location within a state-designated Priority Habitat Area and BioMap 2 Critical Natural Landscape zone, the Shearers qualified for a state conservation land tax credit (CLTC).

Valued at \$450,000, T3C and BBC paid \$75,000 for the CR, and secured major gifts jointly to fund the purchase. The CR protects the valuable and vulnerable dune, heathland and wetland habitats found within it, and helps to further the conservation goals of T3C, BBC, the Town of Falmouth and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.



The Shearer CR also protects this beautiful stretch of beach—900 feet on Buzzards Bay.

Bottom Photos: Alicia Pimental, BBC



MORE LAND PROTECTED

**Pildis CR:** In June, T3C secured a conservation restriction on 2.15 acres on the Moonakis River in Waquoit. Two buildable lots off Metoxit Road, owned by Martin and Ellen Pildis who have a home on the adjacent property, include pine-oak woodlands and sensitive saltmarsh and wetland habitat along 60 feet of the river.

A portion of the Pildis CR land is located within the state-designated Waquoit Bay Area of Critical Environmental Concern. Designated by the Secretary of Environmental Affairs in 1979, the ACEC acknowledges Waquoit Bay for the uniqueness of its largely unaltered estuarine system, its biological productivity, its water quality, its recreational and commercial shell fishing, and its beauty. Waquoit Bay and the barrier beach comprise the most extensive, largely unaltered estuarine system on the south shore of Cape Cod. This CR will not only uphold the tenets of the ACEC recognition, it will also meet one of Falmouth’s open space objectives by protecting this vital natural resource area.

The Pildises qualified for the state conservation land tax credit (CLTC), as did the Shearers (see cover story). This is a highly competitive program that provides a powerful incentive for landowners whose property holds significant environmental value. The credit was capped at \$50,000, but with recent approval by the MA Division of Conservation and Recreation, eligible landowners can now receive up to \$75,000 when donating their



The Pildis CR protects 2+ acres on Waquoit Bay.

land for conservation.

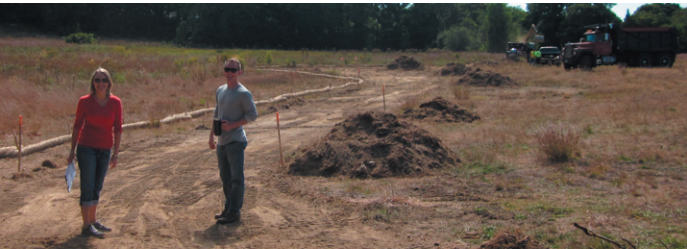
**CR Land Now Owned by T3C:** Private land on Deep Pond in Hatchville, previously held under a conservation restriction, has been donated to The 300 Committee by the Pastor family. This small parcel, 0.62 acres, was protected in 2007 when Bernie and Selma Pastor donated a CR to prevent this lovely waterfront lot from being developed and to preserve the habitat on the pond’s northwestern shore. After Bernie’s death in late 2009, Selma and her daughter Charlotte MacDonald worked through the process of donating the land to T3C. The land gift was completed earlier this year and T3C has made arrangements to transfer the CR to The Compact of Cape Cod Conservation Trusts. T3C is grateful to the Pastor family for their commitment to land conservation.

TEATICKET PARK’S PHASE 2 NEARS COMPLETION

Almost exactly a year after the Teaticket Park streetscape—Phase 1 of the park creation project—was completed, T3C is delighted that the extension of the handicapped-accessible pathway, the construction of the boardwalk and observation platform and the plantings to augment the wetland restoration, all elements that comprise Phase 2, are nearing completion.

“We are happy to continue our working relationship with both Lawrence Lynch of Falmouth and Grafton Briggs Landscaping as we progress through the Teaticket Park project,” said Jessica Whritenour, T3C Administrator. “While the planning and permitting for Phase 2 have been time-intensive and complex, on-the-ground work is going well. The new park features are emerging and provide public access to a far greater portion of the park property, including the wetland.”

Behind the scenes, the landscape management plan, developed by Jack Vaccaro of Vaccaro Environmental Consulting, went through



Jessica Whritenour and Jack Sidar visit the newly cleared wetland path at Teaticket Park. Lawrence Lynch equipment is in the background.

a series of iterations over many months and was ultimately approved by the Falmouth Conservation Commission in August. ConCom required fairly extensive planting as mitigation for the disturbance to the wetland during the installation of the boardwalk and observation platform. These plants include a wide variety of native wetland plants that should thrive in this portion of the Park.

T3C is also pleased to acknowledge several additional local business people who are working on Phase 2: Doug Brown Brown Building Company, Will Clark Perennial Solutions Landscaping, and Tom Bunker BSS Design. Doug grew up in Teaticket and worked extensively with T3C on the boardwalk and observation platform designs, re-tooling plans and modifying materials to satisfy requirements for wetland-friendly installation. His efforts were instrumental in shepherding these plans through the permitting process and in building both structures. A T3C member and volunteer, Will and his crew were hired to water the grass in the streetscape during the dry summer months. With a favorable bid for the wetland planting portion of the Park, Perennial Solutions was awarded this job, which was conducted primarily in early October. Tom, another Falmouth native, developed the engineering plan for Phase 2.

We hope that the newly completed wetland path, boardwalk and observation platform will attract new friends and visitors to Teaticket Park. All of these elements will promote greater public access while protecting and enhancing the sensitive wetland on the property.

INTRODUCING...JACK SIDAR

In August, after an intensive search and selection process, T3C welcomed Jack Sidar to the staff as our new Stewardship Coordinator. “It was clear from the first time we met him that Jack is a rising star in the realm of land stewardship,” said T3C Administrator Jessica Whritenour. “We are so glad he has joined us and know he brings great experience to T3C.” Jack replaces Alex Etkind, who served in this position for 21 months before departing to pursue a Master’s degree.

Jack grew up in Maine and attended college in upstate New York, earning a BS in Forest Resource Management from SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry. After graduation, Jack spent time in Wyoming, California and Maine where his work ranged from educating the public about aquatic invasives with Wyoming Fish and Game to strategic stewardship work at remote sites along the Maine coast.

He comes to T3C from the Kestrel Land Trust in Amherst, MA, where he served as Land Stewardship Coordinator

with AmeriCorps’ MassLIFT program. His responsibilities there translate well to T3C: monitoring conservation restrictions and fee properties, creating baseline documentation reports and land management plans, working with land stewards and other volunteers, assisting with restoration projects and coordinating invasive species removal.

During his first months at T3C, Jack has been getting to know many of the conservation parcels in town, T3C folks who are involved in land stewardship, and key land management people working for the Town of Falmouth. On a personal note, he has developed a special bond with President Leonard Johnson as they are both avid fly fishermen!

Jack is currently working with two Eagle Scout candidates on projects that will enhance wildlife habitat and environmental awareness on two T3C-owned properties (see article below). He is excited to resume volunteer work days this fall and looks forward to spending time out on the land with T3C volunteers.



Several Stewardship Committee members attended the River Bend gathering to officially welcome Jack Sidar. From left: Barry Good (River Bend steward), Frans Rowaan, Jack, Virginia Valiela, Day Mount (chair), Tom Stone and Pam Polloni. Other members include Bob Butcher, Jeff Hamilton, Hal Leeds, Dick Payne, Jay Smith, Gary Walker and Jeff Williams.

STEWARDSHIP PROJECTS INVOLVE STUDENTS AND SCOUTS

The 300 Committee is one of Falmouth’s “go-to” organizations for local young people who wish to conduct environmental projects. Recent projects showcase a variety of hands-on experiences that promote the development of new skills, provide leadership opportunities, and benefit both the

community and the natural environment.



As part of his senior project, Kyle Hampton (top r) led a walk at the new Two Ponds Conservation Area for residents of Atria Woodbriar Place.

During the summer, Jeff Carter completed his Eagle Scout project at the River Bend Conservation Area, removing invasive species and creating “rabitat,” brush habitat to attract New England Cottontail Rabbits. We are grateful to T3C volunteers Pam Polloni, a botanist, and Barry Good, land steward at River Bend, who guided and assisted Jeff in this great work.

KJ Weber, a current FHS senior, is working toward his Eagle Scout badge. Under the close guidance of T3C’s Jack Sidar, KJ will increase breeding habitat for Wood Ducks at Two Ponds Conservation Area by building and installing several nest boxes. KJ will also build and install a new informational kiosk at Two Ponds.



Eagle Scout Candidate Jeff Carter

Eagle Scout candidate Ryson Phares has undertaken the challenge to reroute a trail away from a wetland resource area in T3C’s Rydal Mount conservation parcel in downtown Falmouth’s Grasmere neighborhood. Once the trail is completed, a kiosk will be installed here with information about the unique white cedar swamp that the trail encircles.

A TRIBUTE TO T3C’S LAND STEWARDS AND VOLUNTEERS

*adapted from comments made by Stewardship Committee Chair Day Mount at the River Bend gathering on October 18*

The 300 Committee thanks our Stewards!

And thanks from all those who help in ways big and small to make this part of Planet Earth a better place to live...

- Those who battle against climate change want to thank you for keeping carbon sequestered in our protected lands,
- Those who struggle to provide clean water want to thank you for keeping our watersheds clear,
- Those who fight against over-development want to thank you for the 23% of Falmouth that is open space,
- Those who enjoy recreation in green space want to thank you for the refreshing perspective of nature,
- Those who care about biodiversity want to thank you for brook trout newly re-established in the Coonamessett River (including the otters who eat them); our state bird, the chickadee, thanks you and the osprey, rebounding so successfully, thanks you; the wild turkey thanks you and the coyote that might catch one (hopefully the turkey that messes up my porch) thanks you; even the multitude of critters in our soil, which make life possible, thank you (remembering that 20% of all living things are beetles).

You, Stewards of the Land, are appreciated! Thank you!



The annual Crane Charity Classic event was a fun and action-packed bowling tournament that raised \$7,500 to benefit The 300 Committee and Teaticket Park. The “Bowl 300” team is pictured here, just one of 20 six-person teams to participate. In addition to bowling, the evening featured music, delicious food and beverages, exciting raffles and even a silent auction. Huge thanks to Crane Appliance, Trade Center Bowl, Teaticket Market and Chef Roland’s Catering for their generous sponsorship.



A family event was held at the Matt Souza and Dupee conservation parcels on October 18th, a gorgeous fall day. The Coonamessett Pond Association, in collaboration with T3C, led a walk that combined nature and history. While learning about these special Coonamessett River Valley parcels, participants followed new trail markers, read an informational sign about the Atamansit Dairy barns from the 1920s, glimpsed foundations of the old barns and silo, and visited the cleared field where milkweeds were planted to attract butterflies.



T3C friends show off the fruits of their labors...hand-picked cranberries from a bog in East Falmouth that T3C purchased in 2010.