

WALTHAM



JOURNAL

SPRING 2004

Waltham Land Trust, Inc. is a non-profit corporation dedicated to preserving our community's natural resources for the future through education, open space acquisition and protection.

Celebrate the Vernal Equinox
With Boogie Blues and BBQ
At the First Annual

**Green Space
Blues Jam**

A benefit for
The Waltham Land Trust
Protecting Green Space...
Forever.

Friday, March 19, 2004
7:30-11:00p.m.
at Stonehurst,
The Paine Estate
in Waltham.
Call 781-893-5813 or
e-mail Kricker@vtisp.com
for tickets.*

*\$40 includes
food and drink
from Jake's Dixie
Roadhouse and
Gordon's Fine Wines
and Spirits, and music
by Mike Williams and
members of the Bruce
Katz Band.

www.walthamlandtrust.org

Celebrate the Vernal Equinox with **Boogie, Blues and BBQ**

to benefit the Waltham Land Trust

Friday, March 19, 2004

7:30 to 11:00 PM

At Stonehurst, the historic Paine Estate
in Waltham, A National Historic Landmark

Music by **Mike Williams** and members of the **Bruce Katz Band**

(New England's best blues musicians!)

Tickets are \$40 each and include wine,
beer, soft drinks and barbeque dining.

For information and to order tickets:

call Jenn Dean: 781-893-5813

or email Dee Kricker: kricker@vtisp.com

Volunteer help welcomed.

GREEN SPACE BLUES JAM!

On the eve of the Vernal Equinox, Friday, March 19, 2004, please join us at a special event to benefit the Waltham Land Trust. The First Annual Green Space Blues Jam will be held at the historic Robert Treat Paine Estate, Stonehurst. As we begin our fifth year working to preserve and protect our environmental resources, we wish to bring together all of our city's environmental supporters to celebrate our wondrous natural landscape.

Waltham residents are keenly aware of the importance of land. Throughout the city, we see how quickly large-scale development is literally changing our horizons. Many citizens are working hard to protect and maintain our open spaces: Prospect Hill Park, Hardy Pond, Met State, Indian Ridge, the Fernald Center, and others. We speak up at zoning boards, sign petitions and urge our representatives to hold the line. In the absence of a

Master Plan for the City, we are not surprised to find that variances and special permits are common and encroachment goes largely unabated. It is time for all residents who value our natural areas to come together and support the efforts of the Waltham Land Trust with its important and ambitious mission.

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

Inge Uhler, Membership Chairman

Several members have asked for the option of multi-year memberships to the Waltham Land Trust.

We have devised a plan to satisfy those requests.

Many members have also made additional financial

continued on page 3

DIRECTORS ELECTED

The members of the Waltham Land Trust voted to elect two new members to the Board of Directors for three-year terms at our fourth Annual Meeting in October. Here are some brief biographical notes about our new leaders, Lesya Struz and Scott Sideman. But the best way to get to know them and the rest of the board is to volunteer for one of the standing committees. Dan Melnechuk was also re-elected for another three-year term.

LESYA STRUZ is passionate about backpacking, whether on New Hampshire's 4000-foot peaks in winter or on the summits of the Pacific Northwest's volcanoes. Lesya has worked on outdoor education programs and hikes for the Appalachian Mountain Club (AMC) and the Pacific Crest Trail Association (PCTA), where she lead efforts dedicated to stewardship of 110 miles of trails.

Her efforts continue in Massachusetts. She has a Masters degree in Environmental Planning and



Landscape Design from the Conway (MA) School of Landscape Design. She has worked on conservation, recreation and historic design plans for the towns of Heath and Bedford. Other projects included links to the Bay Circuit Trail (Andover) and work to update conservation restriction records for the Massachusetts Audubon Society.

The Waltham Land Trust's Land Committee has made use of Lesya's GIS (geographic information system) skills to map Waltham's open space. Lesya is currently working to integrate the City's Forest Street Park into the Western Greenway.

SCOTT SIDERMAN is a Management Consultant with seventeen years of experience aiding organizations to develop and implement their strategies and associated operational and automation changes. He is currently the Director of Organizational Development and Information

Management consultant with Advocates for Human Potential, Inc., of Sudbury, MA. Scott, a lifetime city



dweller, and his wife Jenn Dean have lived in Waltham for almost eight years. They have developed a fond affection for the open spaces of the city, often walking or hiking to appreciate the trails, fields and forests and the wildlife that they harbor. These interests caused Scott to join the Waltham Land Trust. Scott has been active on the Membership Outreach and Education Committee and more recently has joined the Development Committee. He is ready to help achieve the Waltham Land Trust vision.

DAN MELNECHUK first joined the Board in 2000 and has become our database manager and webmaster. Dan started life in New York City but was introduced at a nearly age to more natural landscapes on a farm in Brookline and at a pond in Concord. Dan moved to Hardy Pond in Waltham in 1991 and soon joined the Hardy Pond Association. He is also active in the Waltham Alliance To Create Housing and the Green-Rainbow Party.

This and previous page: Scenes from the November WLT walk through the Met State Hospital property. All photos by Arthur Uhler.



Membership categories continued from page 1
contributions beyond their basic dues. WLT also wishes to recognize these members. Here's the plan: MEMBERSHIP remains at \$15 per year in order to be accessible to most people.

CONTRIBUTING MEMBERSHIP runs for two years for \$50. Contributing members will be recognized at our annual meeting.

SUSTAINING MEMBERSHIP runs for four years for \$100. Sustaining members will be recognized at our annual meeting.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP continues for the lifetime of the donor for \$1,000. Life members will be recognized at our annual meeting.

These four categories of membership will be phased in as our members designate their choice on the forms that will accompany the WLT newsletter. You are urged to consider which level of support is right for you.

Please also take the opportunity to volunteer for one of our standing committees listed on the membership forms. You can also update any changes of address or other contact information.

We appreciate your membership and hope that you will become more active in the work of WLT.

We would also appreciate it if you are able to "spread the word" and interest others in supporting the mission of the Waltham Land Trust



YOUR INPUT REQUESTED

What topics would you like to read about in our newsletter? Your suggestions and contributions are always welcome. Send email comments to memberlink@walthamlandtrust.org, or call the editor at 781-890-3639.

Waltham Land Trust Journal

is published by Waltham Land Trust, Inc.
PO Box 541120
Waltham MA 02454-1120.
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Waltham Land Trust, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) charitable corporation, and is a member of the Land Trust Alliance and the Massachusetts Land Trust Coalition.

An electronic file (pdf) of this newsletter is available on our web site. <www.walthamlandtrust.org>

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Officers: Stephen Rourke (President), Marie Daly (Vice Pres.), Dave Kehs (Clerk), Diana Young (Treasurer)

Directors: Katherine Buttolph, George Darcy III, Dave Kehs, Daniel Melnechuk, Allison Mooney, Joris Naiman, Scott Sideman, Robert Stanton, Lesya Struz, Inge Uhlir, Diana Young

Waltham Land Trust's Mission

We are a group of Waltham citizens who want to save open space in our city. Our mission is to acquire, preserve or restore land in a way that:

- ♦ balances conservation and access,
- ♦ maximizes the natural value of land,
- ♦ reduces habitat fragmentation, and
- ♦ permanently protects and conserves natural resources;

So that

- ♦ public appreciation of natural resources grows,
- ♦ native habitat is preserved and restored, environmental quality of life is improved (air, water, noise and light pollution are reduced),
- ♦ biodiversity is increased, and
- ♦ a legacy of conservation is perpetuated in Waltham.

Please send any comments to the return address below, or email to <memberlink@walthamlandtrust.org>.

Waltham Land Trust
PO Box 541120
Waltham MA 02454-1120

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Time to renew? Your membership renewal date is on the label. If there is no date, please consider joining today!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Green Space Blues Jam

Friday, March 19, 2004 7:30 to 11:00 PM
See page 1.

Met State Birding Walk

May, 2004
Watch our web site and local newspapers for details.

Waltham Historic Days

Saturday, June 12, 2004
Walk through the Fernald Center
200 Trapelo Road, 10:00 AM

TIME TO RENEW?

Please check the date on the mailing label of this issue of the Quarterly. This is the date that your membership expires. To-renew your membership, please use the enclosed membership application and return to:

Waltham Land Trust
PO Box 541120
Waltham MA 02454-1220

 Printed on 100% post-consumer waste recycled paper.