

## Leave a Legacy to Save Special Places

Placing HCT in your will (also known as a bequest) is a forward-thinking way to support our land-saving work. If you are interested, please call Exec. Dir. Mike Lach at 508-432-3997 or email [het@cape.com](mailto:het@cape.com). Think ahead and help us save more special places. Find more information at: [www.HarwichConservationTrust.org/Planned\\_giving.html](http://www.HarwichConservationTrust.org/Planned_giving.html). Thank you.

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**PRESERVE LAND FOREVER**

**SPRING 2012 NEWSLETTER**

## State Selects HCT's Cold Brook Project as a Top Priority

- Details on page 6 -



Cold Brook by Bill Giokas; Katydid by Mark McGrath

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Nancy Vial Shremaker

**On April 20th: Don't Miss  
HCT's Spring Winetasting  
Dinner at Cape Sea Grille**  
details on page 2



## HARWICH CONSERVATION TRUST

P.O. Box 101  
South Harwich, MA 02661  
508-432-3997 • hct@cape.com  
www.HarwichConservationTrust.org

### BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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Ryan J. Mann,  
*Outreach & Stewardship Coordinator*

## HCT's Mission

HCT preserves land  
to protect woods,  
water, wildlife  
and our shared quality  
of life in Harwich.



## Dinner

Join HCT for our **10th Annual Spring Winetasting Dinner**. Space is limited, so reserve now! The Cape Sea Grille restaurant in Harwich Port will be offering a multicourse dinner, accompanied by fine wines.

### SPRING WINETASTING DINNER AT THE CAPE SEA GRILLE IN HARWICH PORT Friday, April 20th 6 - 9 p.m.

\$100 per person  
all inclusive with  
multi-course dinner,  
fine wines,  
and gratuity

Enjoy your evening  
while helping  
HCT preserve land.

Reserve on-line at  
www.HarwichConservationTrust.org  
or  
mail a check payable to:  
Harwich Conservation Trust  
P.O. Box 101  
South Harwich, MA 02661

For more information:  
call (508) 432-3997  
or email hct@cape.com

The Cape Sea Grille



## Gifts to HCT - in honor of and in memory of

**In Memory of Mary Ruth Follas**  
John & Carroll Follas

**In Memory of Bruce A. Hackford**  
Harriett H. Hackford

**In Memory of Anne & Edward Hall**  
Karen & Warren Hall

**In Memory of James Hamel**  
Florence Lofberg

**In Memory of Dorothy P. Handren**  
Handren Brothers Builders, Inc.

**In Memory of Bob Healy**  
Jane P. Healy

**In Memory of Robert C. Healy**  
Jane P. Healy

**In Memory of Gwen Hobbs**  
Lynn Vardakis

**In Memory of John Joseph Horton**  
Susan Horton

**In Memory of John D. Kenney**  
Virginia & David Clarendon

**In Memory of Marjorie K. LaCroix**  
Jean Barker

**In Memory of Michael LaDouceur**  
Edward LaDouceur

**In Memory of Nathan Lieberman**  
Morton Shames

**In Memory of Lily**  
Bobbie McDonnell

**In Memory of Dorothy Lowell**  
Allen & Nancy McCarter

**In Memory of Scot Byron McClain**  
Donna & Pete Peterson

**In Memory of John McMahon**  
Haven & Minna Wiley

**In Memory of Bea Naughton**  
Robert J. Naughton, Sr.

**In Memory of Speaker & Mrs. Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr.**  
Rosemary D. O'Neill

**In Memory of Robert Our**  
Eileen Our

**In Memory of Charles F. Palmer, Jr.**  
Carole Palmer

**In Memory of Mrs. Will Price**  
Peggy Sevier

**In Memory of Elizabeth L. Pring**  
Kenneth Pring

**In Memory of Rattail**  
Denise & Robert Anthony

**In Memory of my brother, Richard**  
Jane H. Ferris

**In Memory of Glenna Rowley**  
Frederick W. Rowley

**In Memory of D. Isabel Smith**  
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Brennen

Mr. & Mrs. Richard I. Pickett

**In Memory & Honor of Isabel Smith**  
David S. Crestin & Elizabeth A. Bierbower

**In Memory of Isabel, Dayton & Lisa Smith**  
William West

**In Memory of Dr. Russell Smith**  
Doris B. Schaub

**In Memory of Ken & Glenna Swanton**  
Bette Swanton

**In Memory of Robert W. Udell**  
Joyce H. Udell

**In Memory of Charles O. Verrill**  
Henry & Eleanor Hood

**In Memory of Muriel & David Wadsworth**  
Mary & Brian Hastings

**In Memory of Milton & Barbara Welt**  
Gregory J. Angelini

Patti & Robert Smith  
Nancy Viall Shoemaker

**In Memory of Thad W. Wicks**  
Martha Wicks

**In Memory of Blair & Anne Wormer**  
Jeanne Lapierre & Paul Keary

**In Honor of Margerie Campanella**  
Barbara Garvey

**In Honor of Rich Eldred**  
Bill & Karen Goggins

**In Honor of the Tom Barker Family**  
Jane & Andrew Walker

**In Honor of Tom Leach, Harbormaster**  
Robert K. Leach

**In Honor of our Grandchildren:**  
Kiara, Aedin, Rosie, Oliver & Frankie

Mary Ann & Ronald Rosivack

**In Honor of Michael Lach**  
Robert G. Hankey

**In Honor of Ryan Mann**  
Peter W. Samsel

**In Honor of Melissa B. Mills**  
Susan & Taylor Mills

**In Honor of Scott Ridley's book**  
"Morning of Fire"

Samuel F. & Suzanne M. Winsper

**In Honor of Sarah & Owen Sherwood**  
Barbara A. Tomasian & Stephen Erwin

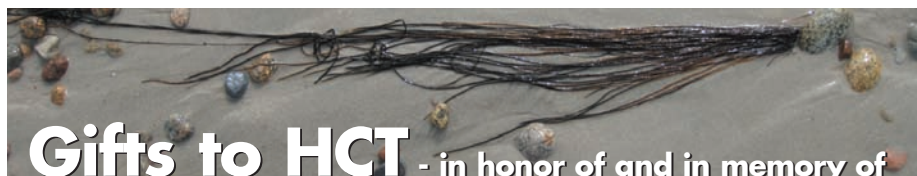
**In Honor of Robert Smith**  
Thomas & Janet Evans

Barry Knowles

**In Honor of Jeanne Dudley White**  
Sally Mahoney

**We strive to save special places**  
**while being mindful of the many**  
**dedications to HCT. Thank you.**





N. Viall Shoemaker

## Gifts to HCT - in honor of and in memory of

Dedicated gifts as of March 5, 2012

### **In Memory of Kathryn Howes Alvord**

Clark & Harriet Alvord II

### **In Memory of Lena Anderson, beloved mother of Karin Cadwell**

Joel, Marilyn, Sherri & Steven Geller

### **In Memory of Dick Baldauf**

Joanne Baldauf

### **In Memory of Lee W. Baldwin**

Sherill Baldwin & Kimball Cartwright, Jr.

Gail & Florence Hancock

Connie L. Pina

### **In Memory of**

### **Martha Barca & Kristin Barca**

Rebecca Barca-Tinus & Michael J. Tinus

### **In Memory of William "Tom" Barker**

Ruth Alberding

Andrea Aldrovandi

Jeanne Barker

Jacqueline & Charles Barrett

Jonathan & Karen Booraem

Pamela A. Bratsch

Frederick & Janice Butler

Pat & George Cavanaugh

Evan & Patricia Cook

Jane & Alice Dalzell

William Doherty, Jr.

Mary Duquette-Maitland

Robert & Linda Ford

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Kathleen Gallo

Tom & Elaine Gerry

John & Louise Greene

Jim Kelly

Mary & Paul Lothrop

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John & Linda McPhee

Annie Peterson

Ronald Plock & Paula Nickerson-Plock

Nancy B. Poor

Janice & Peter Ronalter

Margaret A. Rose

Melissa A. Sanderson

Jane & Colin Stevenson

Joseph David Zabielski

John & Maxine Zartarian

### **In Memory of Jean Beckert**

Ann Beckert

### **In Memory of Ed & Loretta Bown**

Mr. & Mrs. Richard Alexander

### **In Memory of Henry Bracchi**

Jean Bracchi

### **In Memory of Eddy Brown**

E.W. Brown

### **In Memory of Mary E. Brown & Eddy Brown**

E.W. Brown

### **In Memory of Rella S. Bryer**

Rella S. Bryer Trust

### **In Memory of Arthur H. Cahoon**

Sherrie Cahoon

### **In Memory of Harry A. Cassel**

Jane MacAfee

### **In Memory of Doug Cole**

Richard & Janet Colby

Rosemary T. Cline

Virginia Conefrey

Bunny Barca Crowley

Louise Curtice

Alison & Bertrand Czuchra

Cate Degraw

Carolyn Delahanty

Robert & Barbara Doughty

Thomas Dunn

Sharon Elsworth

Bud & Betsy Ferris

Christine Fitzsimmons

Gail Gates

Mary Ellen Glover

Meryl Heller

Patrick & Rebecca Judge

Doris Kelley

Katherine Kelly

On behalf of LIM College

Barbara Lockhart

Meg Lord

Stephanie Luty

Staff of the L. C. MacArthur Elementary School

Louis & Susan Malikow

Phyllis & Patrick McGrath

Margaret Neff

The O'Dell Family

Kim O'Dell

Suzanne & Alan Pearson

Denise & Rod Pendleton

Susan Peterson

Arthur Podaras

R. Terence & Anne Marie Russell

Anne Seeley

Janice & Walter Tipert

Harvey & Sally Tracy

Katherine Udall

Mark Waszkelewicz

Tracy Waszkelewicz

Jennifer Weldon

Keri Wofford

Michael Wynsen

### **In Memory of Judd J. Corbett**

Ursula K. Corbett

### **In Memory of Elisabeth & Lawrence Damon**

Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence B. Damon, Jr.

### **In Memory of Martha & Frederick Davis**

Bonnie & Ross Hall

### **In Memory of Eileen Diamond**

Ralph Diamond

### **In Memory of Bernard Dickson**

Linda Flaherty, Lucy & Roberta Tutunjian

Muriel E. Parker

### **In Memory of Rev. Harlow Tuttle Doliber**

Pauline M. Doliber

### **In Memory of Philip S. Eagan**

Mary M. Eagan

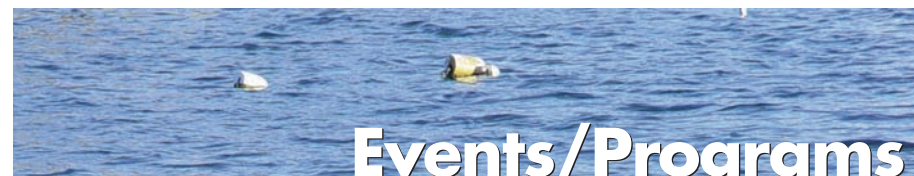
### **In Memory of Carolyn M. Field**

Fred-Munro Ferguson

### **In Memory of Janet Brett Griffin**

Michael & Rebecca Lach

Nancy Viall Shoemaker



N. Viall Shoemaker

## Events/Programs

### **LIVE Birds of Prey**

Thursday, July 12th

3:00, 5:00, or 7:00 pm show

Admission prices: \$15/ages 12 to adult  
\$5/ages 5-11 (not recommended for under age five)

Reserve on-line at  
[www.HarwichConservationTrust.org](http://www.HarwichConservationTrust.org)

or in advance by check  
(payable to Harwich Conservation Trust)  
Mail to P.O.Box 101, So. Harwich, MA 02661



See raptors such as Peregrine Falcon, Golden Eagle, Great Horned Owl, Turkey Vulture & more

Shows will be held in the gym of the Harwich Community Center at 100 Oak Street

## Second Home and Land donated to HCT

Thanks to Bill and Judy Shinkwin of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, who gifted their second home in Harwich to HCT, we've protected upland habitat for wild turkeys and other wildlife species while diversifying support for our land-saving work. The property harbors a grove of holly trees next to a wooded half-acre that the Shinkwins donated a few years ago. HCT plans to lease the home in order to raise more funds.

Donating a property with an existing home is a creative way to generate significant funds for HCT. Donors can benefit from federal income tax deductions and no longer have to worry about liability, home insurance, or other costs. If you are looking for a home for your house, please let us know by calling Exec. Dir. Mike Lach at 508-432-3997 or emailing [hct@cape.com](mailto:hct@cape.com).



Ryan Mann



David Constance

# Herring Count

## Harwich Herring Count

Historically, the Herring River and its headwater ponds comprised one of the most significant herring spawning grounds in the state. However, owing to a precipitous decline statewide, a six-year moratorium on the taking, possession, and sale of herring is in place. Fishery experts need field observations by volunteer counters or "citizen scientists" to gauge herring health and plan a comeback for this keystone species.

Volunteer herring counters are about to begin their fourth season watching for herring that swim and sprint up the Herring River into Hinckley's Pond and beyond to spawn. Here are the Herring River count estimates for the last three years: 19,336 fish in 2009; 41,254 fish in 2010; 10,466 fish in 2011.

HCT continues to partner with the Association to Preserve Cape Cod, Cape Cod Commercial Hook Fishermen's Association, and the Town of Harwich Department of Natural Resources to coordinate the project.

Where were the fish in 2011? The spring weather was persistently cool during the 2011 run season, which may have impacted the count, or the herring decline continues unabated in the ocean or both causes compound additional impacts. Unsustainable fishing has decimated herring and land development has damaged spawning areas. The fish are resilient if habitat is protected and their life cycle is sustainably safeguarded. There is still much to be learned about estimated herring populations derived from our annual volunteer herring counts.

How does it work? Volunteers visit a specific location at regular intervals for as little as 10 minutes per day to watch how many herring pass a certain point. With the information that is collected, the state documents the relative number of herring to better evaluate population health, and hopefully recover the fishery. If you are interested in joining the Herring Count, please contact Ryan Mann (email: hctryan@cape.com, ph: 508-432-3997). With your help, we can restore the Herring River's namesake species.



David Constance



N. Viall Steemaker

# Business Support



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## Cape Coastal Nursery

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# Owls Amaze and Inspire

Mark Wilson: Eyes on Owls



Left: Marcia & snowy owl

Top: Mark with screech & saw-whet owls

Right: saw-whet up close

All photos by Paul Blackmore  
PaulBlackmorePhotography.com



Once again, Marcia and Mark Wilson amazed all ages with their live owl program, "Eyes on Owls," on March 3rd in the Harwich Community Center. From the local, pint-sized saw-whet owl to the majestic Eurasian eagle owl (largest owl species in the world) and all owl sizes in between, the raptors kept a close watch on the wide-eyed people snapping photos. Great-horned, snowy, screech, barred, and the South American spectacled owl were also introduced in close encounter fashion.

The owls have permanent disabilities and cannot be released into the wild. The Wilsons hold state and federal permits to offer these one-of-a-kind educational programs.

Special thanks to our sponsors for making this inspiring event possible: Bird Watcher's General Store, Cape Cod Five Cents Savings Bank, *The Cape Cod Times*, *The Cape Codder*, *Harwich Oracle*, and *The Register*.



July 9 – August 17, 2012

## Natural History Day Camp in Chatham

explore, snorkel, kayak, hike, research... have fun!

Open to children ages 4-13. Call 508-349-2615 or visit [massaudubon.org/chathamcamp](http://massaudubon.org/chathamcamp)



# Land Protection

Nancy Vail: Shoemaker

## Seminar: April 21st

You may have heard us talk about land-saving benefits, but this time is different. Join us for a free informational seminar at 10 am on Saturday, April 21st to learn about a **new state income tax credit** (up to \$50,000!) that can result when preserving eligible land with your local land trust.

In summary, eligible landowners could have their state income tax wiped out for the year. The state will issue a check for the difference between this year's tax and \$50,000 or 50 percent of the appraised value, whichever is less. You do not need to reside in Massachusetts or even pay taxes here, as long as you own the land and the land qualifies, you qualify.

**FREE  
INFORMATIONAL  
SEMINAR  
on the new state  
income tax credit**

**WHEN**  
Saturday, April 21 at 10 am

**WHERE**  
Harwich Community Center  
100 Oak Street, Harwich Center

**RSVP**  
EMAIL: [hct@cape.com](mailto:hct@cape.com)  
PHONE: 508-432-3997

## Land Project on Hold

In HCT's last newsletter, we featured a story about the potential for the Town to purchase a key parcel connecting Bell's Neck Conservation Lands with the Cape Cod Rail Trail bike path, if an agreement could be reached with the parcel's owners. The land within the Herring River Watershed fronts an estimated 800 feet on the West Reservoir. Unfortunately, at this time despite a good faith effort by the Town and the owners, a purchase agreement could not be reached. HCT has been corresponding with the owners for more than 12 years and will continue to keep the door open for future discussion.



Stephanie Foster



# Cold Brook Project

## State Selects HCT's Cold Brook Project as a Top Priority

In the heart of Harwich Port, Cold Brook runs through HCT's 66-acre Bank St. Bogs Nature Preserve before reaching Saquatucket Harbor on Nantucket Sound. A series of old flumes affect the stream's natural flow and the movement of aquatic animals. Ecological restoration of the stream and surrounding habitat has been a top stewardship priority for HCT.

Recently, HCT received good news from the Commonwealth's Division of Ecological Restoration (DER) when the state agency designated Cold Brook as a top ecological restoration priority. Over the past few years, a grant to HCT from the federal Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program managed in Barnstable County by Don Liptack and another grant from the Commonwealth's Coastal Zone Management agency provided funding to conduct preliminary planning for stream restoration as well as selectively improve wildlife habitat. HCT is now working with DER's Jeremy Bell, Franz Ingelfinger, and their colleagues to take the next steps.

A great diversity of wildlife including unusual creatures such as this pink katydid, shown at right, live in the Bank Street Bogs Nature Preserve.



Old flumes like this one will be removed or replaced when restoration is completed.

The state's priority designation for the Cold Brook Project underscores the importance of the growing public-private partnership to preserve the area's biodiversity. The Division of Ecological Restoration will provide technical expertise to help plan, design, obtain permits for and implement ecological restoration that can enhance water flow and wildlife habitat as well as walking access around the Preserve. Stay tuned as we explore a range of restoration possibilities over the next year.



Mark McGrath

Bill Giokas

# Thank You, Volunteers

## HCT volunteers are worth a million in 2012

Volunteers truly make our conservation world go round. In 2005, HCT formally launched a coordinated volunteer program and has been tracking results. Since then, more than 1,000 people have donated their time and energy to trim trails, find vernal pools, monitor protected lands, mark boundaries, lead walks, present talks, organize the office, assemble mailings, document wildlife (eels, herring, songbirds), run fundraising events, fix computers and so much more.

The countless hours that create tangible results also result in a tremendous cost-savings. In fact, we are on track



David Constance

to reach an amazing milestone in 2012. Thanks to continued volunteer investment in our land protection, stewardship, citizen science and office projects, the total estimated dollar value of their combined contributions by the end of 2012 will reach \$1,000,000 (that's right, \$1 million!).

Without the hard work of our many volunteers, much of the successes we have achieved over the past six years would not have happened. Their work is, in fact, invaluable. We thank all who have given and continue to give their precious time.



Exercise and learn from walk leaders such as botanist Rich Eldred.



Bill Giokas photos