



*Helping to Preserve the Rural Landscape of the Mt. Kearsarge/Lake Sunapee Region*  
Andover, Bradford, Danbury, Gosben, Grantham, New London, Newbury, Springfield, Sunapee, Sutton, Warner & Wilmot

# Chatter



Winter 2013

## Conservation **PARTNERSHIPS**

The Nature Conservancy



Protecting nature. Preserving life.™



SOCIETY  
FOR THE  
PROTECTION  
OF  
NEW HAMPSHIRE  
FORESTS



Colby Sawyer  
College

inside • outside • planetwide

Stewardship • Saving Land for Tomorrow

## From the Executive Director:



1987 was the beginning. That was when Ausbon Sargent made the promise to preserve the rural character and landscape of the Mt. Kearsarge/Lake Sunapee Region. We've accomplished a lot in our first 25 years, 120 conserved properties totaling nearly 10,000 acres, but more still needs to be done.

As we begin our next 25 years, we will continue to save lands that define our region and enrich our lives. Ausbon Sargent will follow its Strategic Plan

to conserve more land, improve stewardship, enhance outreach, increase membership support and diversify its funding base.

In order to accomplish our **conservation** goal, Ausbon Sargent has a Conservation Plan which identifies geographical areas with the greatest resources to be conserved. Since there are many more focus areas than we can address at one time, we have prioritized them. It is not our objective to protect every acre in each focus area, only to provide information to landowners and provide opportunities for them to consider conservation as one of their options. Concurrently, we will continue to respond to calls from landowners who want to conserve their land, even when their land is not in a focus area.

Ausbon Sargent's Conservation Plan is intended to help us to be more proactive. We will actively seek out owners of important conservation land to initiate long term relationships with them and help them understand their conservation options. We expect this approach to have a positive impact on the amount and quality of land conserved and the fundraising opportunities for our work.

**Stewardship** goes hand-in-hand with conservation. Once a property is conserved, our job has just begun. The generous landowners that we have worked with trust Ausbon Sargent to watch over their conserved lands forever. Stewardship is the overall management and oversight of all Ausbon Sargent conservation easements and properties that we own. Our stewardship obligations grow as more lands are conserved. This means we need to continue to increase our volunteer pool to help monitor properties. More importantly, stewardship requires that Ausbon Sargent be financially sustainable and that is why in 2012 we launched our first ever capital campaign **Saving Land for Tomorrow**. Without sufficient reserves and your financial support, we could put Ausbon Sargent at risk. We are grateful to all who have given to the Saving Land for Tomorrow campaign.

Connecting people to our conservation lands will be integral to our **community outreach** in 2013. As you read *Chatter* you'll learn about educational workshops, volunteer opportunities and outdoor events. Please be sure to check out our calendar of events on our website. We will be offering a host of summer activities so you can experience special places in the Mt. Kearsarge/Lake Sunapee Region that nurture your soul and are part of this livable place called home.

Now in my 25th year with Ausbon Sargent as its first Executive Director, I feel so fortunate to be working for an organization that makes a difference in the quality of our lives. Ausbon Sargent attracts wonderful people to support its mission...competent staff, committed trustees, dedicated volunteers, caring landowners and generous members. Thank you all!

*Debbie Stanley*



*View across Baptist Pond in Springfield*



# Partnerships Make It Possible

By Peggy Hutter

**part'-ner-ship: n.** 1. a relationship between individuals or groups that is characterized by mutual cooperation and responsibility, as for the achievement of a specified goal

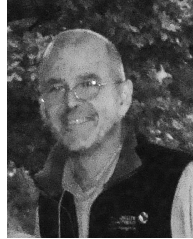
Building relationships, pooling resources, sharing expertise, offering encouragement, lending perspective, pitching in with the workload, and applauding a job well done are some of the many assets of good partnerships. We enter into partnerships for a variety of reasons. Sometimes walking the road together makes the journey a richer experience and sometimes joining with others is the only way that journey would be possible.

In 1996, Hillary Rodham Clinton wrote a book, *It Takes a Village—and Other Lessons Children Teach Us*, basing her title on an African proverb, “It takes a village to raise a child.” She shares her belief that, although the family should have the greatest influence on a child’s development, it truly takes the interaction of many people in a child’s life to help him to realize his greatest potential. The phrase, “it takes a village . . .” has become idiomatic and clichéd in our society, as we use it to describe any circumstance in which we believe we can’t accomplish the task alone. It often takes on a humorous tone when some of us in the more “mature” stage of our lives believe, “it takes a village” to do even the simple things in life like . . . have a conversation or remember details. What we all acknowledge is that there are times that we need the help of others to be most successful.

Through the 25 years since The Ausbon Sargent Land Preservation Trust was incorporated, the land trust has developed quite a “village” of partners. Some landowners who place a conservation easement on their property through Ausbon Sargent have the personal means to handle all of the necessary details on their own. Others have valuable property and a great desire to preserve the rural character of our area by conserving their land, but the costs inherent in the project are prohibitive and they need help. Local conservation commissions, state and federal agencies, private trusts and the generosity of many in our fundraising endeavors represent some of the partners that Ausbon Sargent depends on. Some projects take years to accrue the necessary funds, requiring many partners and a great deal of dedication.

If you have partnered with us in the past, please know that your donations have been greatly appreciated and that you have contributed to the quality of our area. If you love the rural character of the Mt. Kearsarge/Lake Sunapee Region, but you have not yet joined Ausbon Sargent in this mission, we encourage you to join our “village” and be a part of something that we can all do for our children and their children, forever.

*Peggy Hutter, a retired teacher from the Kearsarge Regional School District, has been working for Ausbon Sargent for the past two years as the 25th Anniversary Coordinator. Now that the 2012 Anniversary year has come to a close, Peggy has begun her new role as Ausbon Sargent's Communications Coordinator.*



*“My work with Ausbon Sargent and the many others who have partnered with The Nature Conservancy to help preserve nature and the special places in New Hampshire is right at the top of my list of how great things get done in New Hampshire. Together we’ve made a huge impact and had a shared commitment to the places and people who count on us. Thank you for being such a great partner and supporter.”*

**~ Daryl Burnett, The Nature Conservancy**



*“Our students have worked with the Ausbon Sargent staff on two Community-Based Research projects identifying conservation priority areas using Geographic Information Systems technology. The exposure to real-life projects using information they gathered to make real conservation decisions was eye-opening and has a long-term impact as they make career decisions. Two of our recent graduates are currently employed by land trusts in Massachusetts as a direct result of their work with Ausbon Sargent.”*

**~ Laura A. Alexander, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Environmental Studies at Colby-Sawyer College**



*“The Sunapee-Ragged-Kearsarge Greenway is itself a creation of a partnership. In the early 1990s, leaders from The Ausbon Sargent Land Preservation Trust, Lake Sunapee Protective Association, the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests and local conservationists knew that bringing people to the region’s landscapes would create a natural constituency of land conservation while also enhancing the role of recreation in the region’s economy.”*

**~ Gerry Gold, Trailmaster, SRK Greenway Coalition**

*“Partnering with other conservation partners allows each group to bring their strength to a conservation project. The Forest Society and Ausbon Sargent have a long and successful history of partnering on conservation efforts in the region. Ausbon Sargent’s staff and board members have been instrumental in many projects, the last being the 1,056-acre Black Mountain Forest on the slopes of Mt. Kearsarge.”*

**~ Brian Hotz, Senior Director of Strategic Projects, Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests**



*Facts about the proposed*  
**Baptist Pond  
 Trust (East)**

*Conservation Easement*

**Town: Springfield**

**Location: East Side of Baptist Pond,  
 off Stoney Brook Road**

**Acreage: 118 acres**

- This is the second Easement donated by the Baptist Pond Trust, together representing protection of 1/3 of the pond frontage.
- It conserves over ½ mile of shoreline along the 83-acre Baptist Pond, representing 25% of the pond frontage, bringing the total conserved pond frontage up to 58%. (Baptist Pond flows into Otter Pond and then into Lake Sunapee.)
- This adds 118 acres to a block of over 2,100 acres of already conserved land, including Star Lake Farm, Deer Hill Farm and the Webb Forest Preserve.
- The property includes wildlife habitat ranked among the highest in the state by the NH Wildlife Action Plan.
- Scenic views of the hillside and/or shoreline are visible from the SRK Greenway, Stoney Brook Road, Deer Hill Road and Route 89.

## ***Land For All Seasons***

*by John Trachy*

**Quick - what is 300 feet tall**, can have a white, green or brown coat, has wet feet and has its head in the clouds? Need a clue? It is 2,800 feet wide, covers 118 acres, abuts 2,100 acres of conserved lands, includes wildlife habitat ranked among the highest in the state by the NH Wildlife Action Plan, and conserves over ½ mile of shoreline. Need still more clues? It has scenic views of the hillside and shoreline visible from the SRK Greenway, Stoney Brook Road, Deer Hill Road and Route 89. One last clue? It is the proposed second donation from the Baptist Pond Trust, representing the extended Hodges and Garfield families, long-time residents of Springfield. To them this land is known as Pitcher Hill, land their family acquired in 1919 and land they have taken great pleasure in knowing and caring for it in its natural state.

If you have ever driven along Interstate 89 or Stoney Brook Road in Springfield and admired the undeveloped back side at the east end of Baptist Pond, you have seen this striking land. Steep slopes compliment the meandering shoreline, trees hug the edge and up to the summit, reminiscent of what all of our ponds and lakes looked like some two centuries ago. Together with its neighbors (Star Lake Farm, Deer Hill Farm and Webb Forest Preserve) it provides habitat for bear, deer, moose, turkey, bobcat, coyote and all the wildlife down the food chain. Its undisturbed soils hold and filter the snowmelt and rain before streaming into Baptist and Otter Ponds, then Lake Sunapee. This Pitcher Hill stands tall by most measures!

Love of this land, this pond, and a concern for its future prompted the Hodges and Garfield families to consider ways to protect it. Working with Ausbon Sargent in 2008 they donated a conservation easement on more than 1,800 feet of shoreline at the west end of Baptist Pond. In the words of John Garfield at the time, "My Co-Trustees and I feel that this conservation easement is a particularly appropriate way of reflecting the goals of my grandmother and her descendants..." Success breeds success and the collaborative effort with Ausbon Sargent was indeed successful. It was then only natural to turn to Ausbon Sargent to protect its remaining land – forever.

With "forever" on her mind, Perry Hodges commented: "For about a century now our families have looked across the pond at Pitcher Hill, hiked on its cliffs, taken care of its trees, or simply sat on its summit just

>>>

## **Baptist Pond – Fundraising**

Before Ausbon Sargent accepts a new conservation easement, we must have a survey plan showing precisely where the property boundaries are located and we must raise at least 1/3 of the total funds needed to monitor and enforce the easement – forever. Sometimes the landowner covers these costs, and sometimes a grant is available. When a property is very special, we may seek funds from the community and our members to cover these costs. For the Baptist Pond Trust easement, the Ausbon Sargent board has approved raising \$7,500 to allow this project to go forward. If you would like to make a donation of any size to help us complete this important project, please make a check payable to Ausbon Sargent, add "Baptist Pond" to the subject line, and mail it to us at PO Box 2040, New London, NH 03257 or call the office (526-6555) to make a credit card donation or gift of stock.

## WISH LIST

More donations so we can achieve our  
Saving Land for Tomorrow campaign goal.

Portable canopy tent with Ausbon Sargent logo - \$750

Sturdy rectangular portable table - \$85

Office chair - \$200 • Battery for laptop - \$120

*Can you help us with any of these items?  
Contact Debbie Stanley at 526-6555 or  
dstanley@ausbonsargent.org*

to meditate and take in the view. And even today, looking at its dark quiet woods from across the pond, it still feels like a destination—a wild place to paddle towards, where you hope to see a heron fishing in its cove or catch a glimpse of the loons taking their chicks for a swim along its shore—or maybe even a bear or a moose. Not impossible! We'd like to help keep that possibility possible.”

The many Hodges and Garfields who have roamed Pitcher Hill and Baptist Pond over the last 100 years or so continue to pass on a legacy and a responsibility. One can almost hear the words of John Elder reflecting their thoughts and actions, “We must conceive of stewardship not simply as one individual’s practice, but rather as the mutual and intimate relationship, extending across generations, between a human community and its place on earth.” Well said, well done.

*John Trachy and his wife, Cynthia Hayes, are conservation easement donors (Deer Hill Farm) in Springfield and neighbors of the Hodges and Garfield families. As Ausbon Sargent easement donors, they appreciate the value of land conservation, especially contiguous parcels, in maintaining spacious wildlife habitat.*

## Engaging Landowners – A New Opportunity

*By Beth McGuinn*

Are you a landowner of significant acreage, say 25 acres or more? Have you ever wished you could get together with other landowners in your area to discuss topics of common interest like how to handle passing your land on to the next generation, how to share your love of the land with your grandchildren, how to attract wildlife to your property, or how to deal with wildlife issues like beavers flooding a woods road? If so, Ausbon Sargent’s Woods Forums may be just the thing for you!

Landowners love their land for so many reasons – a peaceful walk in the woods, the history of family ownership, the wild turkeys foraging outside the kitchen window or the fox family romping through your meadow. Landowners have a lot to learn from each other, and Ausbon Sargent will work with the UNH Cooperative Extension in 2013 to help that learning take place.

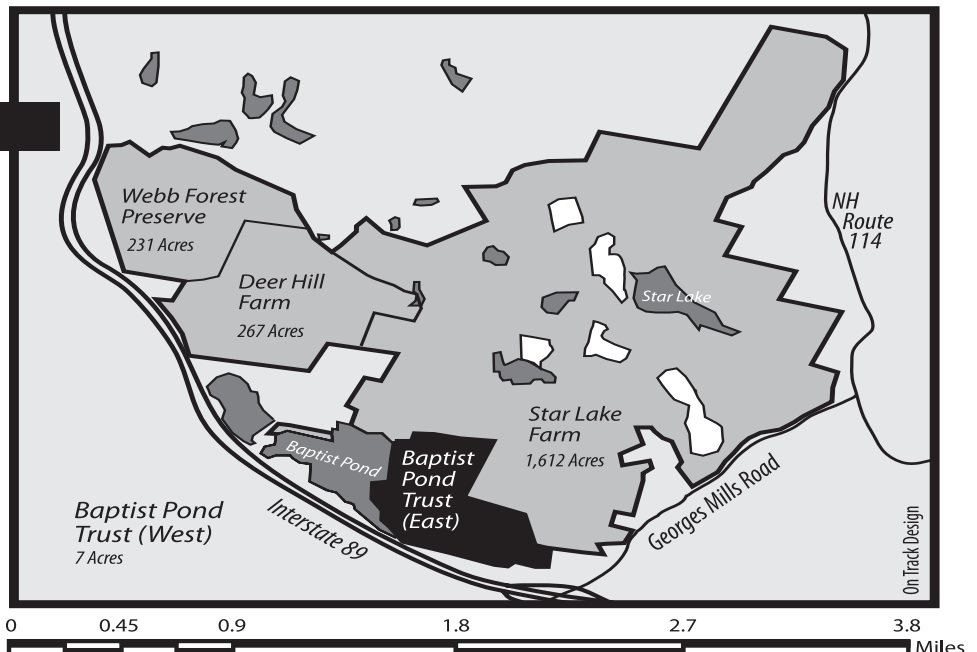
With help from a Northeast State Foresters Association grant, we will be hosting Woods Forums for landowners to gather with each other, have a short presentation on a topic of interest and engage with fellow landowners on topics and questions they choose. Funding for this pilot program will allow us to hold Woods Forums in southwest Bradford and the Mt. Kearsarge areas of Warner, Sutton, New London, Wilmot and Andover in 2013. If you would like to attend a Woods Forum, please contact Nancy Smith at our office by calling 526-6555 or e-mailing [nsmith@ausbonsargent.org](mailto:nsmith@ausbonsargent.org)

*Beth McGuinn has been a Land Protection Specialist with Ausbon Sargent for seven years. She helps landowners interested in conserving their land evaluate the opportunities and move through the conservation process when landowners are ready to conserve.*

### Baptist Pond Trust (East)

Conservation Project  
118 Acres  
Springfield, NH

Conservation of the Baptist Pond Trust (East) property will make an important physical connection between the Star Lake Farm easement and Baptist Pond.







# The Ausbon Sargent Land Preservation Trust

## Gifts, Thank Yous & Land/Easement Donors



We only print the list of our Membership and Annual Fund donations once a year, in the summer issue of Chatter.

If you have any questions concerning your membership status please call Operations Manager, Sue Andrews at 526-6555 or email sandrews@ausbonsargent.org

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Barbara and Ivor Freeman

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SooNipi Magazine

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Town of New London Conservation Commission  
State of NH - LCHIP

### MARILYN KIDDER AND THE STAFF AT COLDWELL BANKER MILESTONE REAL ESTATE

(for donating a portion of every sales commission to Ausbon Sargent)

Kim Armen  
Melanie Blom  
Emily Campbell  
Sarah Ellis  
Donna Forest  
Sharon LaVigne  
Chris Murray McKee  
Judy Merrill  
Jane Snow  
Stacey Viandier  
Joan Wallen

### WE WOULD ALSO LIKE TO THANK:

Charlie and Mary Lue Belden for office recycling.  
Sandy DeLaat for photographing events.  
Wynne and Tom DeMille for the donation of a Nancy Lyon landscape weaving.  
Mary Jane Ellis for fulfilling our wish list.  
Betsy Forsham for proofing easement deeds.  
David and Lee Hitchcock for hosting a neighborhood gathering.  
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Todd Richardson and family for all their work to make the Star Lake Farm party a huge success.  
Laura Salvay for hosting a neighborhood gathering.  
Dan and Alta Thorne for the use of beautiful Star Lake Farm.

### CHATTER DELIVERY

Kathleen Belko  
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Karen Ebel and Kris Lohmann for volunteering in the office on a regular basis.

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*Our sincere appreciation to those who share their passion for natural places through land and easement donations.*

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\*denotes deceased

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Dr. and Mrs. Donald H. Kaplan  
Lake Sunapee Bank  
Heidi and Pete Lauridsen  
Jud and Cindy Lawson  
Leatherwood Foundation  
Barbara D. Roby

##### \$5,000 to \$9,999

Peter Guest and Jen Ellis  
Deborah J. and Arthur Hall  
David and Cynthia Marshall  
Mr. and Mrs. William A. Obenshain  
Deborah and Peter Stanley  
Mr. and Mrs. Harry R. Tether

##### \$2,500 to \$4,999

Anonymous  
Laura and Jim Alexander  
Mr. and Mrs. David B. Andrews III  
Greg and Astrid Berger  
Bill and Ki Clough  
Dr. and Mrs. Thomas T. Doran  
David and Janie Webster  
Paula Wyeth

##### \$500 to \$2,499

Anonymous (2)  
Deborah K. Benjamin  
Mr. and Mrs. B. E. Burton  
Alison A. Coady  
Gerard and Jane Gold  
Neal and Ann Harris  
Mr. and Mrs. G. William Helm Jr.  
Tom and Marilyn Hill  
Virginia Johnson  
Mr. and Mrs. David M. MacMillan  
Ruth Smith and Beth McGuinn  
Yim Kim and John O'Dowd  
Jane A. Phillips  
Emory and Susie Sanders  
Kiki and Dan Schneider  
Mr. and Mrs. F. Augustus Seamans  
Pat and Jack Sheehan  
Richard Sherman  
Nancy Teach  
Gene and Sue Venable  
David and Jane White  
Jim and Susan Wright

##### Under \$500

Anonymous (3)  
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas P. Beal, Jr.  
Mr. and Mrs. Pierre J. Bedard  
Clare and Dean Bentley  
Tom and Judy Clay  
Country Houses Real Estate  
Marjorie Dillinger  
Helen Duchesne  
Dorothy Ann Egan  
Donald and Susan Elliott  
Frederick A. Ficken  
Four Seasons -  
Sotheby's International Realty  
Lisa Garrahan  
George Chait Construction, LLC  
Helen T. Gillespie  
Mr. Waldo Grover  
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hafner  
Rosli Hanslin  
Arthur and Louise Hildreth  
Mr. and Mrs. David I. Hitchcock  
Mrs. Patricia D. Kelsey  
Aida Lopez  
Barbara and John MacLeod, MD  
Lynn and Tom McMurry  
E. Andre and Margaret Paquette  
John and Betty Raby  
Robert Reed  
Vahan and Anne Sarkisian  
Marcia McWethy and Jeff Singer  
Ruth Sisson  
Linda and Phil St. Onge  
Edward Stikeleather  
Barbara Sullivan  
Claire and David Sussman  
Mr. and Mrs. John Tilley  
Mr. and Mrs. Gregory Weiss  
Mr. and Mrs. D. Austin Wood  
Donna T. and Robert Young

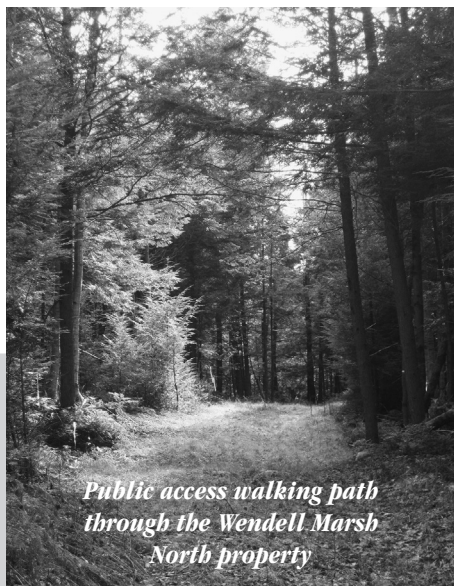
**We can't do it without our volunteers!**



Photo by Sandy DeLaat

**The Ausbon Sargent Land Preservation Trust just completed its final event, the annual Holiday Party at the New London Inn, in a year-long celebration of its 25th Anniversary.**

*Members of the Ausbon Sargent Special Events Committee, who helped to organize and work at the Holiday Party, are (L-R): Marcella Starkey, Midge Cross, Bonnie Guterl (Co-Chair), Kathleen Belko, Nancy Smith, Nancy Brazier (Co-Chair) and Andrea DeAugustinis. Thank you to our loyal volunteers.*



*Public access walking path  
through the Wendell Marsh  
North property*

## Facts about the proposed Wendell Marsh North

*Conservation Project*

**Town: Sunapee**

**Location: South Side of Ryder Corner Road**

**Acreage: 136 acres**

- The land will be owned by the Town of Sunapee with Ausbon Sargent holding a conservation easement—forever.
- Includes land previously approved to provide water for a commercial water bottling facility, that would export water out of the region
- Conserves land that could be densely developed once the sewer line from Perkins Pond is completed
- Begins the conservation of an area recognized by the Sunapee Master Plan as having a preferred future use as “conservation”
- Protects a portion of the Wendell Marsh watershed and over 2,200 feet of the unnamed brook flowing from Perkins Pond
- Provides wildlife habitat for a diverse species, including those requiring a large home range such as coyote and bear
- Includes nearly a mile of snowmobile trail maintained by the Lake Sunapee Snowmobile Club
- Will remain open for snowmobiling along the trail, for pedestrian access including hiking, nature observation, snowshoeing, cross country skiing and hunting

## **Wendell Marsh North**

*by Beth McGuinn*

Sometimes an important resource seems to be on its way to development, and nothing a land trust or concerned neighbors say or do will change the trajectory of that development. That seemed to be the case with the Wendell Marsh area for many years, but today, we have a chance to begin conserving the Wendell Marsh area.

Most travelers along Route 11 in Sunapee have noticed the large wooden sign on the north side of the road declaring “Wendell Marsh Waterfowl Management Area,” and most are surprised to learn that the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department owns only a few acres there, and the Department’s primary ownership is the right to flood the Sugar River which creates Wendell Marsh, a rich and diverse wildlife habitat. However, the upland that filters the water draining into the marsh is not conserved. In fact, some of that upland was slated to be used for a water bottling facility that would draw water from underground and ship it away from our region. However, that plan did not come to pass.

Today, Ausbon Sargent and the Town of Sunapee are working together to conserve an area north of the marsh, which we call Wendell Marsh North. If conserved, those wells approved for the water bottling facility will only be available for use as a Town of Sunapee municipal water supply. There will be no opportunity for dense development on this property when the sewer line from Perkins Pond goes through and the Conservation Commission will be able to manage the property responsibly for forest products, wildlife, and public access—walking, snowshoeing, skiing, nature observation, hunting and snowmobiling.

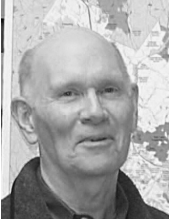
What changed, you might ask? Much of the land surrounding Wendell Marsh came up for sale, and thanks to Dr. Jolyon Johnson’s quick action and generosity, he purchased a strategic parcel to keep it off the market and make it available for conservation. Dr. Johnson has offered the 136-acre property for sale to the Town of Sunapee with a conservation easement to Ausbon Sargent.

Conservation Commission Chairman, Van Webb said “The commission believes that may be the initial step in conserving the Wendell Marsh area and creating an area for wildlife habitat, public recreation and clean water. The Master Plan recognizes that this area’s preferred future use is for conservation and the commission agrees with that assessment. We have made a significant financial commitment to conserve this land.” When the land is conserved, the commission will seek to designate the property a town forest, create a new interpretive trail for the public and host recreational and educational field trips.

The total cost to conserve the property, including all expenses associated with the purchase, is \$297,000. Typically, the Land and Community Heritage Investment Program (LCHIP) would be a source of funding for this project, but its legislatively dedicated funding has been diverted to the General Fund for now. The Sunapee Conservation Commission has stretched to make a commitment of over >>



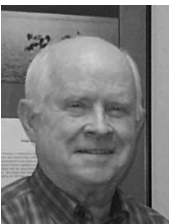
## MEET OUR NEW TRUSTEES



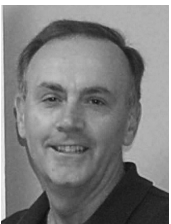
**Doug Lyon** was born in New York and grew up in Connecticut; however, when asked if he was a native of New Hampshire, Doug responded, “No, but I have lived here forever.” Doug and his wife of 43 years, Nancy, graduated from the University of New Hampshire, where both were philosophy majors. He later received his master’s degree in Political Science. Doug recently retired after 22 years as the Treasurer for Colby-Sawyer College. Prior to that, he was a consultant in higher education, which included temporary assignments as the Chief Financial Officer for Notre Dame College of NH, Colby-Sawyer College, New England College and Franklin Pierce University. Doug is a golf fanatic, so it is understandable that he has always enjoyed living in an environment where we have open space—a big reason why he loves New London. Protecting that open space is one of the reasons that Doug is inspired to be a part of Ausbon Sargent. Of course, Doug states that his greatest inspiration to join the Board of Ausbon Sargent came from the appreciation he gained from Nancy Lyon’s longtime commitment and service to the Land Trust. From all of us who loved Nancy, we are excited to have you on the Board, Doug.



**Susan Nooney** has lived in New Hampshire all of her life and moved to Wilmot in 2004 after marrying her husband, Brian. Susan attended Southern New Hampshire University where she received her Bachelor of Science degree in accounting. A practicing Certified Public Accountant, Susan spent nearly 20 years working for two of the state’s larger CPA firms. While working at these firms, Susan gained significant experience in nonprofit accounting and auditing; she also gained a deep respect for the work small, local nonprofits do. Susan currently operates her own CPA firm in Andover specializing in nonprofits. Susan is a finance committee member of the Red River Theatre in Concord. She is also the Treasurer of the Community Alliance of Human Services in Newport and is an active participant in the Big Sister program, a challenge she finds especially rewarding. Old enough to remember southern New Hampshire before interstate sprawl overtook some of her favorite childhood places, Susan has a deep appreciation for the work that Ausbon Sargent does. She is especially grateful to be living in an area that benefits so directly from Ausbon Sargent’s oversight. Welcome to the Board, Susan.



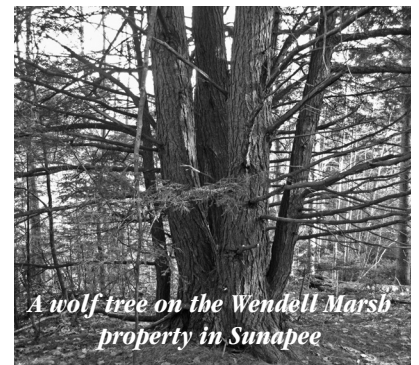
**Charlie Foss** says that it was part of his marriage contract that he and his wife, Carol, would eventually live in this area. Carol’s family had been summer residents on Little Sunapee since the early 50’s and guests at Twin Lake Villa since the 40’s. The move to New London was inevitable. Charlie was born in East Orange, NJ. He graduated from Washington and Jefferson College in Washington, PA where he met Carol, who attended Chatham University in nearby Pittsburgh. Charlie and Carol lived in Newtown, CT for 21 years before moving to New London in August of 2005. Charlie had a career in Materials Management in the field of Pharmaceuticals. He is the grandfather to three granddaughters, ages 6, 4 and 20 months and enjoys golf, skiing, hiking and bridge. When asked about his reasons for joining the Board of Ausbon Sargent, Charlie said, “I believe in the mission of Ausbon Sargent, in conserving land for future generations. We don’t need to develop everything.” We like your thinking, Charlie. Welcome.



**Steve Allenby** and his wife of 35 years, Nancy, moved to New London in 2010. Steve grew up near Cleveland, Ohio, graduated from Heidelberg University in Ohio, and then moved to S. Royalton, VT in 1977 to attend the Vermont Law School. After practicing law at Central Vermont Public Service for five years, Steve moved into management where he eventually rose to a Senior VP. Since 1993, when Steve left Central Vermont Public Service, he has been helping to finance and develop renewable energy projects and energy efficiency projects. Steve has three married sons and three grandchildren with a fourth grandchild on the way. He enjoys hiking, sailing and kayaking. In regard to the reasons for Steve’s involvement with Ausbon Sargent, he says that he is very interested in the preservation of land in a way that helps maintain the character of the area. He is impressed that our easements allow for agriculture as well as recreation within the guidelines because he believes that local agriculture is going to be critical to the economic resiliency of our region, allowing us to withstand many crises. We are happy to have you join us, Steve.

\$200,000 towards this project and Dr. Johnson has offered a discounted price for the land. Ausbon Sargent is seeking other grant sources and private donations from the community to complete the project.

Now we turn to the community to help bring this project to completion. Ausbon Sargent needs to raise at least \$20,000 from the community to conserve the Wendell Marsh property. Please help us ensure that this land is not used for its commercial water bottling potential or for high density development along the sewer line. You can make a donation of any size by sending a check payable to Ausbon Sargent, with “Wendell Marsh North” in the subject line, and mailing it to PO Box 2040, New London, NH 03257 or by calling the office (526-6555) to make a credit card donation or gift of stock. Your donation, in any amount, could help conserve this property and begin the momentum for more conservation in the Wendell Marsh Area.



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# Are We Just Done?

## *A Brief Reflection on the Meaning of Life*

By John Garvey



*John Garvey is the Board Chairman of Ausbon Sargent. His father, Dale Garvey, was the first Secretary. John and his wife, Cotton Cleveland, live in New London where they raised six children who all know the view from the top of Mt. Kearsarge.*

When my son Teak was five years old, he looked up at me and asked, “Dad, after you live a long time and then you die, do you start all over again or are you just done?” I can’t remember exactly what I told him, but I’ve never forgotten the question. That’s probably because I wrote it down at the time and have kept it in my bedside table ever since.

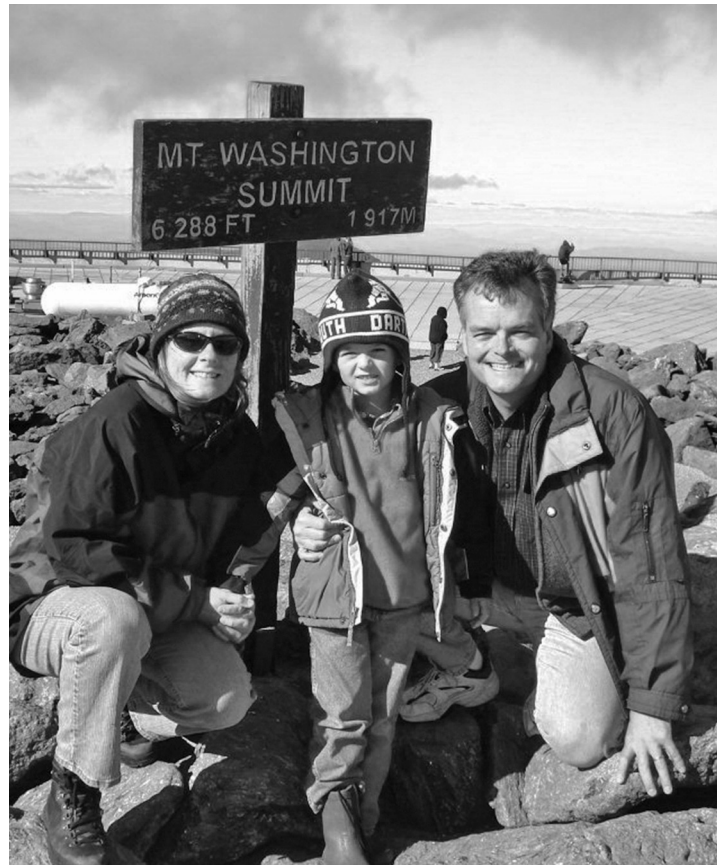
That was about 6,000 days ago. Every time I open that drawer, there it is – the BIG question. The days have come and gone with an increasing speed that sometimes makes me catch my breath. When I close my eyes, using the Ken Burns effect, I can see the images of those days smoothly and silently gliding by me – taking up more and more space on what’s left of my hard drive.

What do I see? I see favorite trails that my wife and I have climbed with each other and with our children – sometimes in shorts and sometimes in snowshoes – and always with our dog running circles around us. I see sun shining on melting snow and streams that are starting to swell. I see my family on the top of Mt. Kearsarge on Thanksgiving – looking down at the valley below and pointing out the places that our friends and family live. I see stars in a sky that is still dark at night, and I see the red glow of a new morning. I feel a connection that can’t be described but only sensed deep inside. As I look for meaning in life, I find that it always seems to be connected with passion. Passion fuels the soul, and keeps us looking forward

to the next sunrise. We don’t have to understand it – we just have to feel it. For me, that passion includes the incredible beauty that is all around us. When I commute to work, I pass by beautiful fields and woods that have been protected from development. When I play, I hike on quiet paths and enjoy amazing views – from miniature forest cover to enormous vistas. I like thinking about great grandchildren who will be able to walk these same paths long after I am gone. To me, passing on this gift – saving this land for tomorrow – provides a kind of continuity that I find very meaningful. By passing it on, we answer the question of whether we are just done – and the answer is “no!”

During the last 25 years, Ausbon Sargent has worked with landowners to save nearly 10,000 acres of land for tomorrow. This is a huge commitment, which requires a lot of work long after the easement is granted and long after we are all gone.

If you share my passion and haven’t already donated to the ***Saving Land for Tomorrow campaign***, I hope you will.



*Heidi, Ben and Rich Anderson enjoy a family hike on Mt. Washington. Read Rich’s passionate words about what special places like this mean to him in his article on page 11.*

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## *“The creation of a thousand forests is in one acorn” —Ralph Waldo Emerson*

*by Rich Anderson*

I grew up in suburban New Jersey in the sixties and seventies, in a fairly typical neighborhood of tidy, standard middle class homes. Our house was pretty much like any of the houses on either side of it or those across the street, for that matter. On the side of the street that I lived on, however, there was one thing that set the homes apart. Behind our houses was a large tract of forest known simply as “the woods.”

For a child, these woods were the stuff of magic. Tall trees loomed everywhere, trails led off in various directions, and streams babbled through them. We built forts in them, raced bicycles in them, hiked through them and spied wildlife in them. Our parents were happy to send the kids off into the woods after school during the week and (probably) as early as possible on the weekends. Pretty much the only instruction was to be home in time for dinner.

After moving from that neighborhood in the mid-seventies, every once in a while I would find myself back in town for one reason or another and it was always fun to get caught up on the doings of neighbors and friends. Some would have moved away, and I perhaps would have noticed that the farm about a mile down the road from us had been sold and developed into a new neighborhood, but year after year, it was reassuring to see that “the woods” remained, beckoning a new generation for an afternoon of adventure.

A few years ago, I was back in New Jersey visiting family and I told my Dad that I wanted to take my wife and little boy back to the old neighborhood to show them where I grew up. My wife graciously agreed to an afternoon of endless reminiscing and we all headed out. The trees were bigger than I remembered and the houses smaller, but otherwise the neighborhood looked much the same. We then turned onto the street that went past the woods. There was a new road cut into it and bulldozers were busy at work knocking down trees while carpenters hammered lumber on the first few houses of what would obviously be a very large new development.

I like to think that perhaps there is a little boy growing up happily in what was once my home. Unfortunately, I know that behind his house is not “the woods” any longer. It’s just another house. Near our home in New London there is a beautiful tract of land with stone walls, streams and a trail that leads to a magnificent view of Lake Sunapee. We have enjoyed hiking there on many occasions and, when my son gets a little older, I know it will be a place of many adventures for him and his friends. Because of the generosity of the family that donated this special piece of land, and the ongoing stewardship of The Ausbon Sargent Land Preservation Trust, I also know that it will still be there someday when he returns with kids of his own.

In the most recent version of our Will, my wife, Heidi, and I have left a bequest to Ausbon Sargent. We are by no means wealthy but, as an attorney who has written a few Wills in his day, I know that taken cumulatively with other members’ bequests we can play a part in securing the future of Ausbon Sargent. And this, in turn, means that for many boys and girls growing up today, “the woods” that they know and love will always be there, ready for the adventures of a new generation of kids. We hope that, when you are doing your own estate planning, you might also consider making The Ausbon Sargent Land Preservation Trust a beneficiary of your Will or Trust and join us in the aptly named Acorn Society. It’s easy to do and the folks in the office will be happy to tell you how.



*Rich Anderson is an estate planning attorney who lives and practices in New London. He and his wife, Heidi, are the proud parents of six year-old Benjamin. Rich is a member of the New London Fire Department, the Kearsarge Regional School District Municipal Budget Committee and the Development Committee of The Ausbon Sargent Land Preservation Trust. He can also be found serving drinks as a volunteer bartender every other Sunday at Woodcrest Village with his friends, Kyle Kennedy and Andy Deegan.*



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## ***Invasive Species: Coming to a Forest Near You?***

*By Tim Fleury*

The relatively rapid dispersal of invasive, non-native plants and insects into our region is beginning to occur with alarming frequency. Aided by a rapidly evolving global economy and transportation network, non-native species can suddenly be introduced into an entirely new environment, free from its natural predators or other biological controls. They quickly build up large populations, out-compete native species, and sometimes kill their hosts.

For this reason, The Ausbon Sargent Land Preservation Trust and UNH Cooperative Extension co-sponsored a workshop, "Invasive Species: Coming to a Forest Near You?" on November 1st at the Kearsarge Regional Middle School in North Sutton. Kyle Lombard of the NH Division of Forest and Lands and Doug Cygan of the NH Department of Agriculture, Markets and Foods provided the technical information.

Some invasive species, such as the Western Conifer Seed Beetles and Asian Lady Bugs, are just plain nuisances as they try to share our living space. Others species, such as the Japanese Knotweed and Glossy Buckthorn, can be serious challenges to the stewardship and economic use of our land. At worst, some of these species threaten to destroy entire forests. Unfortunately, this invasion reflects a disturbing trend on our forested landscape, of which we all should be aware.

The two biggest threats to New Hampshire's hardwood forest, the Asian Longhorned Beetle and the Emerald Ash Borer, have both been found in Massachusetts. Federal officials are hopeful they have contained and will eradicate the Asian Longhorned Beetle in Worcester, MA. Forest health experts, however, are not so optimistic about the Emerald Ash Borer which has killed millions (potentially billions) of ash trees in the Midwest states. They say it is probably only a matter of time before the pest arrives in New Hampshire.

Forest health experts say that early detection and eradication are the keys to controlling destructive invasive pests. Perhaps you have noticed the purple triangular traps hanging in local ash trees along our roads. These traps are being used for early detection should the Emerald Ash Borer make its way to our region. You can help by looking for and reporting sightings of pests that cause the most severe forest health threats. If someone had identified and reported the Asian Longhorned Beetle in Worcester, MA sooner, it would have saved thousands of street trees and millions of dollars in eradication efforts. If these eradication efforts seem expensive, consider estimates by Ohio Officials that the total economic impact of the Emerald Ash Borer could exceed \$3 Billion.

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### ***Our Newest Volunteer***

**Kris Lohmann** approached Ausbon Sargent recently to ask if there was any way she could be of help in the office for a couple of hours a week. Much of what we do at Ausbon Sargent cannot be accomplished without the help of volunteers, so we jumped at the chance to have Kris join us on Tuesday afternoons. Kris has been in the area since 1986 and she and her husband, Glen, live in New London. They have five sons, ages 19-25. Kris has worked for the Davey Tree Expert Company for 18 years and said that she came to Ausbon Sargent because she likes the idea of donating time to a non-profit organization. She and Glen plan to attend the monitoring workshop in the spring and begin to monitor an Ausbon Sargent property in the fall. We love our volunteers. Thanks, Kris.



### **Do you have your current e-mail address in our system?**

We regularly send e-mail "blasts" to our members to share information about upcoming events or exciting news.

If you think your information might need updating, e-mail us:  
**[sandrews@ausbonsargent.org](mailto:sandrews@ausbonsargent.org)**

If you missed the workshop and want to learn more about these problem pests or if you have an insect you want to identify, visit [www.nhbugs.org](http://www.nhbugs.org). Invasive species are a very real concern.

*Tim Fleury is the UNH Cooperative Extension Forestry Educator for Merrimack County. Tim is also a valuable member of the Ausbon Sargent Outreach Committee representing Sunapee and a member of the Sunapee Conservation Commission*

**When you're looking for something to do—**  
when you have guests visiting our area, or when you're  
looking for a cause to support, GO TO:

**[www.ausbonsargent.org](http://www.ausbonsargent.org)**

(News/Calendar)

We have some great information that will be  
posted on our website throughout 2013.

Look for news about guided hikes on our conserved  
properties, find trail maps of hikes you can take on your  
own, see volunteer opportunities and find the date of our

**Volunteer Recognition Party.**

You'll also find information about our  
special events like the

**Thursday's Child benefit dinner**

at the New London Inn,

our **Progressive Dinners**, and our newest endeavor,  
the **Kearsarge Klassic Bike Randonnee**.

We'd love to have you join us and we'd love to  
meet your family and friends.



*Kearsarge Klassic Bike Randonnee Registration at the New  
London Historical Society, September 8, 2012.*

*Photo by Sandy DeLaat*

## ***The 2nd Kearsarge Klassic Bike Randonnee***

*By Peggy Hutter*

On September 8th, 2012, Ausbon Sargent co-sponsored a bike event with the New Hampshire Cycling Club (NHCC) from Concord. Two members of the club have a home on Lake Sunapee and, for years, have enjoyed cycling on the back roads of the Mt. Kearsarge/Lake Sunapee Region. They were excited to share our wonderful area with others. In the spring of 2012, they approached Ausbon Sargent with an interesting fundraising opportunity. The NHCC created the routes and maps, handled

online registrations and many of the logistical details while Ausbon Sargent provided food and volunteers for the day. At the end of the event, we were thrilled to hear that the cycling club was donating ALL of the proceeds from the day to Ausbon Sargent!

For those of you who participated in last year's bike event and for those who regretfully missed it, we have great news. On Saturday, September 7, 2013, the Randonnee returns! The NHCC will be tweaking some parts of the 30-mile, the 59-mile and the 86-mile routes, but they will essentially be the same, winding through 10 towns, past many Ausbon Sargent protected properties and offering something for every level of rider. The response of the riders to the course, the scenery and the meals we provided was wonderful. Some of the many participants' comments can be read on the Ausbon Sargent website ([www.ausbonsargent.org](http://www.ausbonsargent.org)).

Although the event does not take place until September of 2013, registration will open online in January at <https://www.bikereg.com>. The event is limited to 200 participants and the cost of registration will increase after July 1st, so consider making your plans early.

Much of the success of the 2012 event was due to the generosity of the many Ausbon Sargent volunteers who helped throughout the day. We are increasing the number of riders in 2013, so we could use more muffin, brownie and cornbread bakers as well as volunteers to make and donate a crockpot of chili. It was a fun day to be a part of, so we hope you'll consider joining us in 2013.



*Participants of our Kearsarge Klassic Bike Randonnee in  
September got an unexpected treat as a moose and her calf ran  
across their path on Rt. 11 near the Gross Property lunch stop.*

*Photo by Jim Sandberg*



Our 25th Year in Pictures



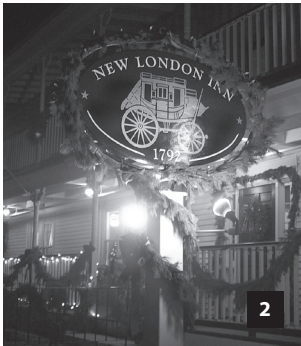
THE AUSBON SARGENT LAND PRESERVATION TRUST



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5



2



3



6



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1. *Ausbon Sargent Day on The Common, celebrating the birthday of Ausbon Sargent, our namesake, June 11, 2012*  
—photo by Midge Eliassen
2. *The New London Inn was the site of our May, 2012 Thursday's Child dinner as well as our December, 2012 Holiday Party*—photo by Sandy DeLaat
3. *Happy Birthday, Ausbon Sargent!*  
—photo by Sandy DeLaat
4. *Past board Chairs for Ausbon Sargent at the 2012 Holiday Party L-R: Marilyn Kidder (1992-94), John Garvey (current), Woody Blunt (1987-89), Heidi Lauridsen, seated (2008-10), Chris Cundey (2004-06), Dan Wolf (1995-98) and Nancy Teach (2006-08)*  
—photo by Sandy DeLaat
5. *Debbie Stanley and Bruce King at the New London Hospital's "Landscapes for Landsake" 25th Anniversary Art Exhibit Reception, May 2012*  
—photo by Sue Andrews
6. *Peggy Hutter, 25th Anniversary Coordinator, serving cake at Ausbon Sargent Day on the Common*  
—photo by Lee Morrill
7. *Van and Tyler Webb sharing at the Webb Forest Tour in February, 2012*  
—photo by Peggy Hutter
8. *Debbie Stanley presenting Marcia Goulart with a commemorative Ausbon Sargent plaque for her house during our Spring Ledge Farm Tour in June, 2012*  
—photo by Sandy DeLaat
9. *Paula Wyeth and her BBQ crew at the Star Lake Farm Picnic, July 15, 2012*  
—photo by Dan Wolf
10. *Kayakers gather for a tour of Otter Pond. Our 25th Anniversary year presented many opportunities for hikes and nature experiences on Ausbon Sargent properties*  
—photo by Craig Goodwin
11. *2012 Annual Meeting held at the historic Center Meeting House in Newbury, October 21, 2012*  
—photo by Sandy DeLaat
12. *Thursday's Child Benefit Dinner at the New London Inn. Jeanie Plant's Little Lake Sunapee group in the Sargent Room*—photo by Sandy DeLaat
13. *Court Cross, John Garvey and Hilary Cleveland at the 2012 Holiday Party at the New London Inn*  
—photo by Sandy DeLaat
14. *Nancy Lyon Weaving Exhibit at the CSC Mugar Gallery, September/October, 2012*—photo by Sandy DeLaat
15. *Ausbon Sargent's original founders with Debbie Stanley at the 2011 Holiday Party*—photo by Sandy DeLaat  
(front L-R) Jan Kidder, Heidi Lauridsen, Sue Clough; (back L-R) John Clough, Woody Blunt, Debbie Stanley and Bill Berger



71 Pleasant Street  
P.O. Box 2040  
New London  
New Hampshire  
03257-2040  
603.526.6555



Not only was 2012 the 25th Anniversary of The Ausbon Sargent Land Trust, but August of 2012 represented the beginning of Debbie Stanley's 25th year as Executive Director. Shelby Blunt honored Debbie at the September Major Donor's Event at the Blunt stone barn. Congratulations, Debbie, and thank you.

Photo by Dick Katz

Newsletter layout design by Lee T. Morrill, On Track Design.  
Special thanks to all our guest authors!

### Ausbon Sargent—Officers, Trustees & Staff

#### OFFICERS

**John Garvey**, Chair  
**Doug Lyon**, Vice-Chair  
**Nan Kaplan**, Secretary  
**Paula Wyeth**, Treasurer

#### STAFF

**Deborah Stanley**, Executive Director  
**Beth McGuinn**, Land Protection Specialist  
**Andy Deegan**, Land Protection Specialist-Stewardship Manager  
**Sue Ellen Andrews**, Operations Manager  
**Laurie DiClerico**, Development Associate  
**Nancy Smith**, Administrative Assistant  
**Patsy Steverson**, Bookkeeper  
**Peggy Hutter**, Communications Coordinator

#### TRUSTEES

**Laura Alexander**  
**Steve Allenby**  
**Martha Cottrill**  
**Joe DiClerico**  
**Charlie Foss**  
**Cindy Lawson**  
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