

Conserve. Explore. Enjoy.



www.falmouthlandtrust.org

Falmouth Land Trust's mission is to preserve and care for fields, forests, farms, and shorelines, in the Town of Falmouth, while maintaining the historical character and nurturing an enduring stewardship and enjoyment of the land.



a falmouth land trust newsletter to the community > spring 2016

Spring

TAKE A HIKE, FALMOUTH! Get outside this Spring and Summer with the Falmouth Land Trust

The Falmouth Land Trust cordially invites you to get out and enjoy your backyard. Have fun with the whole family and friends exploring miles of trails, and attending one of the many events planned for this Spring and Summer without leaving town.

For a detailed trail map, visit our website, www.falmouthlandtrust.org, or pick one up at the Falmouth Parks and Community Programs office at the Mason-Motz Activity Center.

HERE ARE SOME UPCOMING EVENTS TO HELP YOU KICK OFF YOUR SUMMER OUTDOORS! HOPE TO SEE YOU OUT THERE!

JUNE

Sunday, June 26th, 7:30 – Noon
**Falmouth Five and Dime Trail Races @
Falmouth Community Park**

Join FLT and Trail Monster Running as we host our fourth annual race on Falmouth's trails. All ages are welcome to enter and race; prizes will be awarded in three categories for men and women. A registration form can be downloaded from the FLT website. Or register online at: <https://www.runreg.com/falmouth-five-and-dime>. A map of the route can also be found on the FLT website. Rain or Shine.

JULY

Saturday, July 16th
Baxter Outdoors Blackstrap Off-Road Classic

Join Baxter Outdoors at the FLT Blackstrap Preserve for a fun, challenging trail race, close to home. One of Baxter Outdoors' New England Trail Run Series, This 5 km trail run will take place mostly on single track, multipurpose trails and will be followed with snacks and cool down beers for all racers over 21. For more information and registration, please visit Baxter Outdoors at, <http://www.baxteroutdoors.com/events/2016/summer12.html>

SEPTEMBER

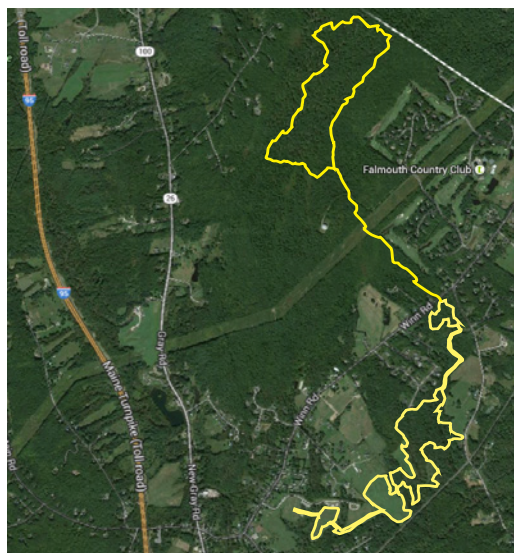
Thursday, September 22nd, 5-8pm
Harvest Over Hurricane Valley Farm

Celebrate the start of a new season with your friends and neighbors at the 4th annual Harvest Moon celebration at Hurricane Valley Farm. Located on Schuster Road (off Route 100), Hurricane Valley Farm is the newest addition to the FLT and our first farm! This is FLT's biggest event with delicious fare from local restaurants and markets, and craft beer and wine. Enjoy the music and warm yourself by the bonfire when the sun goes down over the picturesque fields of the farm (weather permitting). Tickets are \$35 in advance, \$40 at the event and can be purchased online at www.falmouthlandtrust.org



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Visit our website at www.falmouthlandtrust.org

Letter from the President: *Tommy Johnson*



“Time passes, like clouds in the sky. Weeks and months go by as if they were a single day. Summer fades to fall, winter yields to spring, different minutes of the same hour.” – Yann Martel (from *The High Mountains of Portugal*)

What a difference a year makes! This time last year The Falmouth Land Trust was making its final push to secure funds to acquire the Hurricane Valley Farm property. With the generous support of donors, businesses and philanthropic organizations, we have closed on the property and our hard working, volunteer Board of Directors is confident we will own this property debt-free within the next 12 months (not too late to get your donations in!).

Along with the acquisition of the 60+ acre agricultural property, this purchase included an historic barn as well as a residential ranch house. We have a wonderful tenant in the ranch house and are requesting proposals from farmers late this summer to truly restore the farm to working condition. The annual FLT “Harvest Party” was held at the Farm in September. This event brought many of Falmouth’s restaurants and markets together, offering samples to each of the 150 guests. Presentations were made in honor of the Trust’s 35 year history. As guests toasted this celebration, the night concluded with a 10-foot bonfire that ushered in the full moon. This was an excellent evening so make sure mark your calendars for this year’s annual Harvest Party on September 22nd 2016 – “Harvest over Hurricane Valley Farm”.

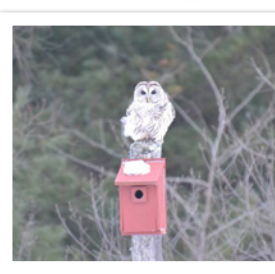
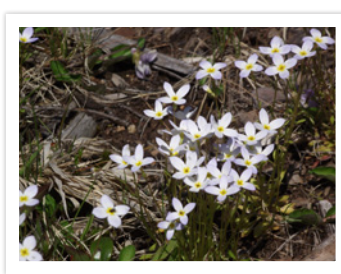
Other 2015 highlights included the 3rd annual “5 & Dime” Trail Race at Community Park, the 2nd annual “Bagels on the Beach” at Clapboard Island, and the 1st annual “Ice Cream

Social” at Town Landing Market. In October, the 3rd annual “Spooky Story’s” series continued with “Scales & Tales”. This family-friendly event brought professional storytellers and live animals from Chewonki under one roof to entertain both children and adults.

In April of 2016, the Trust saw the departure of our unparalleled Executive Director, Analiese Larson. Analiese served on the Trust’s Board of Directors for 5 years, before taking on the role of E.D. in 2011. In her 10 years of service, she oversaw the evolution and expansion of the board, increased outreach and awareness of FLT, helped increase the number of yearly supporters, guided the Trust through many legal & community hurdles and was instrumental in the 1st new land acquisition in nearly 15 years: Hurricane Valley Farm. We will miss the devotion and guidance Analiese provided, but are assured that she will remain a friend of the Trust, continuing to steward properties and participate in many of our events.

We’re happy to announce that Lucia Kearns, a recent addition to the Board, has stepped into the role of interim Administrative Director. Lucia has quickly taken on the day to day operations providing the Board time to thoughtfully consider what organizational structure best supports the Trust, our properties, and the Falmouth community.

2016 has shaped up to be another busy, challenging, and active year for the Trust. The Trust is in an excellent position to face the many opportunities ahead. I look forward to providing the leadership and guidance for the continued evolution that will meet our mission and goals in the years to come.



FALMOUTH LAND TRUST P.O.Box 6172 Falmouth, ME 04105

- Individual \$25.00 Family \$35.00 Other \$ _____
- Patron \$50.00 Sponsor \$100.00

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Please make checks payable to Falmouth Land Trust. The Trust is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization. Your contributions are tax deductible. **THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**

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Another Chance for the Presumpscot River: by Peter Hubbard

Many of you have seen Presumpscot Falls, a beautiful rapid and the last major drop before the fresh waters of the Presumpscot River join the sea at the head of tide. This rapid was silent for 268 years, buried by the backwater of the Smelt Hill Dam (and its predecessors).

The removal of Smelt Hill Dam in 2002 allows free passage of anadromous fish for the first seven miles of the river. We are witnessing a recovery of the Presumpscot. Sea run fish such as river herring (alewives and blueback herring) have renewed access to the lower section of the river and its tributaries. These strong, persistent swimmers make it up Presumpscot Falls and into the lower Presumpscot watershed spawning in Highland Lake among other locations.

Other fisheries are responding. Sport fishing for fish such as shad and striped bass is a current reality. The river herring are an important feeder fish resource. Little by little, this recovery is a possibility as many people work to restore this river. The Falmouth Land Trust (FLT) is taking part in this restoration, in part by protecting land within the Presumpscot's watershed. The Presumpscot River makes up



much of Falmouth's Southern Border and the majority of the Town is in the River's watershed - what we do in Falmouth impacts this wonderful resource.

Alewife counts two years ago were estimated at 16,000 into Highland Lake. Due to beaver dam blockage last year in Mill Brook the count was down to about 6,000. Counting has started this year. After spawning in Highland Lake we hope many of the fry make it back to Casco Bay to continue the cycle and become part of the food web or return to spawn.

University of Southern Maine faculty are currently monitoring alewives as they enter Highland Lake from the Mill Brook tributary. You can volunteer (½ hour block) to count fish this June and help this research effort. Contact Jason Smith: 251-1628 or riverherringmonitor@gmail.com.

Think about going out this week to Presumpscot Falls and see if you can spy a fish swimming up the river, possibly on a journey to Highland Lake. Take some time to enjoy one of the many interesting things going on "right in our backyard"!



BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2016

- John Adelman
- Ted Asherman
- Martin Bruno
- Charlie Bruder
- Peter Farnum
- Jed Harris, *Past President*
- Peter Hubbard
- Tommy Johnson, *President*
- Jeff Lallemand, *Treasurer*
- Scott Sanford, *Vice President*
- Rick Scala
- Michael Vance, *Secretary*
- Jeff Walker
- Janet Wrona

Lucia Kearns, *Administrative Director*

Richard Uhlman



Sadly, The Falmouth Land Trust has lost a friend and steward with the recent passing of Dr. Richard Uhlman. Dick retired to Maine in 2007 and immediately became an active steward for FLT. Dick's favorite place to help out was the newly acquired Falmouth Corners Preserve. Dick will be sorely missed by FLT and the Falmouth

Community. Born in 1927 in Plainfield, NJ, Dick served

in the US army at the end of WWII. During his medical school residency he met his future wife Margaret (Peg) Eyer and they were married in July 1958. He formed a thriving urology practice in West Chester, PA and he and Peg raised six children all of whom went on to individual success in family and profession, to his great pride. Peg and Dick retired to Maine in 2007 where they enjoyed many happy times and gatherings with their family and loved ones. Dick's daughter Analiese Larson has been a key supporter and contributor the FLT for over 10 years. After serving 5 years as a founding board member, Analiese went on to serve an additional 5 years as FLT's first Executive Director. Our thoughts are with the Uhlman family as we remember a devoted friend of the Trust.

Falmouth Land Trust would like to thank our corporate sponsors



HARVEST OVER HURRICANE VALLEY FARM



A Celebration of Community Spirit and Environmental Vision

Conserve. Explore. Enjoy.



Join us for A Taste of Falmouth's local fare.

\$35 (in advance) \$40 (at the door)

Thursday, September 22, 2016 5:00-8:00 pm

Schuster Road (off Rte. 100) • Falmouth, Maine

OVER 10 FAVORITE EATERIES • DOOR PRIZES

<http://falmouthlandtrust.org/?p=1771>

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