



# Old Lyme Land Trust

Our Annual Newsletter: *Tributaries*

Incorporated 1966

[www.oldlymelandtrust.org](http://www.oldlymelandtrust.org)

August 2019

## Watch Rock Preserve Welcomes Visitors with a New Look



The Watch Rock Preserve entryway and parking lot, before (left) and after (right) recent renovations.

Thirty-five years of graciously hosting hikers, birders, dog-walkers, fishermen, crabbers, photographers, nature-lovers and the like had taken their toll. It was time for a make-over.

Soon after the Watch Rock Preserve was acquired by the Old Lyme Conservation Trust (now the Old Lyme Land Trust), the late John Lohmann led an effort to secure regulatory approval for a formal entry road extension from Joel Drive. An environmentally suitable roadway and parking area with a wooden entrance gate to the preserve were installed. While this sole entrance has served quite well since the mid-1980's,

serious erosion by decades of storm runoff and year-round visitor vehicle traffic had degraded it.

A multi-year project to address roadway erosion issues began with preliminary discussions with the CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) staff in Hartford. State of CT vs local jurisdictional issues at the work site were identified, followed by formal land survey mapping to determine the boundaries of DEEP's Coastal Jurisdiction Line — the elevation that reflects the long-term highest predicted

*(Continued on page 4)*

## Nurturing a Special Place Along the CT River

Anyone who has visited the John Lohmann CT River Preserve since late October has undoubtedly noticed the two fine new cedar benches. For these, the Trust thanks Eagle Scout candidate Alec Russell, a student at Lyme-Old Lyme High School who is a member of Troop 240 in East Lyme. Alec proposed and planned the service project, organized a work team, secured generous donations of building materials from United Building Supply (now Riverhead Building Supply) in Niantic and Laysville Hardware in Old Lyme, and worked with his team of adults and fellow scouts to build the benches. Cedar, being naturally resistant to damage caused by bugs, decay, and water, will allow for many years of enjoyment.

One bench was installed at the riverfront where it offers great views of Essex and Lords Cove year-round. The other is placed at the top of the path leading down to the river. Views

*(Continued on page 2)*



Mountain laurel, the Connecticut state flower, in bloom at the Upper Three Mile River Preserve. OLLT welcomes Pierre Rougny as a new steward of the preserve.





Alec Russell, his parents Traci and Tony Russell, Dylan McKee, Mike McKee, and Ben Bertsche at one of the cedar benches built as part of Alec's Eagle Scout service project.

## Nurturing a Special Place

(Continued from page 1)

from the second bench are seasonal due to trees protected by a conservation easement on the slope between the field and the river. Nevertheless, this bench is also popular in all four seasons, as evidenced by the foot traffic which has almost eliminated the need for mowing around it.

The bench commissioning celebration was held on a blustery Saturday morning in April. While the weather did



not lend itself to water-side relaxation, a small but hardy group nevertheless gathered to enjoy refreshments and conversation in a protected corner away from the gale. The load was lightened thanks to the good folks at neighbor-

**The management of the John Lohmann CT River Preserve includes encouraging the growth of pitch pine trees, a native species which is now relatively scarce in the state.**

ing Long River Farm who lent their ATV to bring in the event's provisions.

We hope you visit at a time that is conducive to a peaceful, contemplative pause on the riverside bench. Looking around, you may notice a few pitch pine trees and dozens of young seedlings nearby. This species, once prevalent in the Connecticut landscape, was an important part of the area's early economy when it was used for ship building, fences, and railroad ties. However, pitch pine trees are becoming increasingly scarce. Their preferred habitat is unique: they like ledges, sandy soil and most importantly, sunlight, which is presently lacking in this location. Thus, in conformance with the recommendations of professional forest management plans, and with the concurrence of the Connecticut River Gateway Commission, about 20 hardwood trees in the area were removed by Yankee Tree of Old Lyme this summer. It's hoped this will help this uncommon set of seedlings to thrive. The Trust is grateful to Alec and his team, as well as to Anne Galliher, the OLLT Board member who worked closely with Alec.

## We Appreciate our Volunteers!

Maintaining our 14 preserves and other holdings takes a small army of volunteers. As a key component, each preserve has one or more stewards who regularly walk the preserve and notify the OLLT Board of any management needs. They also help pick up litter and carry out minor trail work. OLLT is privileged to have so many volunteers who share their time and talents, as well as the leadership of OLLT Board member Susanne Colton-Carey. Please consider joining this group of extraordinary people.

Wayne Ashton\*  
 Jeff Ballachino\*  
 Mary Ballachino\*  
 Charlie Beal\*  
 Olaf Bertram-Nothnagel  
 Amanda Blair  
 Cheryl Bucior\*  
 Mike Bucior\*  
 John Christiano\*  
 Ned Coffee\*  
 Kevin Cole  
 Susanne Colton-Carey\*  
 Nina DeMartini-Day  
 Sandy Downing\*  
 Peter Engelking\*  
 Andrea Fenton  
 Fred Fenton  
 Russ Fogg\*  
 Ted Freeman\*  
 Anne Galliher\*  
 Brian Greenho\*  
 Chuck Halsey\*  
 Day Halsey\*

Lea Harty\*  
 Jack Hine  
 George James\*  
 Mike Kiernan\*  
 Cindy Kovak\*  
 Kent Lacey\*  
 Jack LaRocca  
 Jon Lathrop\*  
 Ron Lee\*  
 Ted Mundy\*  
 Paul Nickerson  
 Agnes O'Connor  
 Jack Ostroff  
 Bobbie Padgett\*  
 Chris Penniman  
 Richard Porcelli\*  
 Bernadette Powers\*  
 Mike Powers\*  
 Pierre Rougny\*  
 Ed Sopneski\*  
 Edie Twining\*  
 Axel Westerberg  
 \*Preserve Steward

OLLT thanks Attorney Michael J. Wells, Esq. of the Hudson & Kilby Law Firm in Centerbrook for his many years of pro-bono legal services to our organization.









The burial ground on the Goberis-Chadwick Preserve harbors the grave of an unnamed Chadwick daughter who died at age 2 days in 1769 – her gravestone is still legible after 250 years. Thanks go out to Preserve Stewards Wayne Ashton for his meticulous maintenance of the burial ground and the trail system, and Charlie Beal for his historical research.

## Watch Rock Preserve *(Continued from page 1)*

tide — and a soil scientist's study to identify all other relevant coastal and inland wetland areas. These steps were necessary to ensure that any repair work would fully conform to current State of CT and local environmental regulations.

Jubilation marked the day when the final regulatory authorization was received in the 2nd quarter of 2019. OLLT went straight to work on the site: the excavation, regrading, and compaction of over 95 tons of gravel fill on more than 5,300 square feet was completed on May 16<sup>th</sup>. The before and after photos of the entrance road and parking area speak volumes regarding the dramatic improvements.

All told, the project cost over \$11,000, a figure which reflects formal surveyor site mapping, soil scientist fees, selective removal of trees and stumps blocking the work area, paving, and other labor expenses. We are appreciative of the contributions of OLLT members, which fully funded the work.

Our plan is to make additional repairs and enhancements to this popular preserve. A refurbished entrance gate and

updated signage are underway. To maintain the preserve's excellent condition, new visitor regulations will be introduced later in 2019. In response to increased incidents of littering, loitering, and vandalism, public visiting hours may be restricted. Anyone witnessing such activity is asked to contact the Old Lyme Police.

The rewarding culmination of these sustained efforts reflects the dedication of many OLLT Trustees, volunteers, and members. While too numerous for all to be listed here, we would like to especially recognize OLLT Board Member Ed Silk for leading the project from beginning to end. Continued financial support from OLLT members will be crucial to funding other essential preserve maintenance not only at the Watch Rock Preserve but also at our 13 other properties that are open to the public. If you are not already a member, please consider joining OLLT to help maintain the wonderful natural areas we are fortunate to have in Old Lyme.

We have received many positive comments on the entryway transformation; come see it for yourself! The Watch Rock Preserve is open from dawn to dusk; see enclosed map for directions.



### **Attention:** **Charter Oak Federal Credit Union Members**

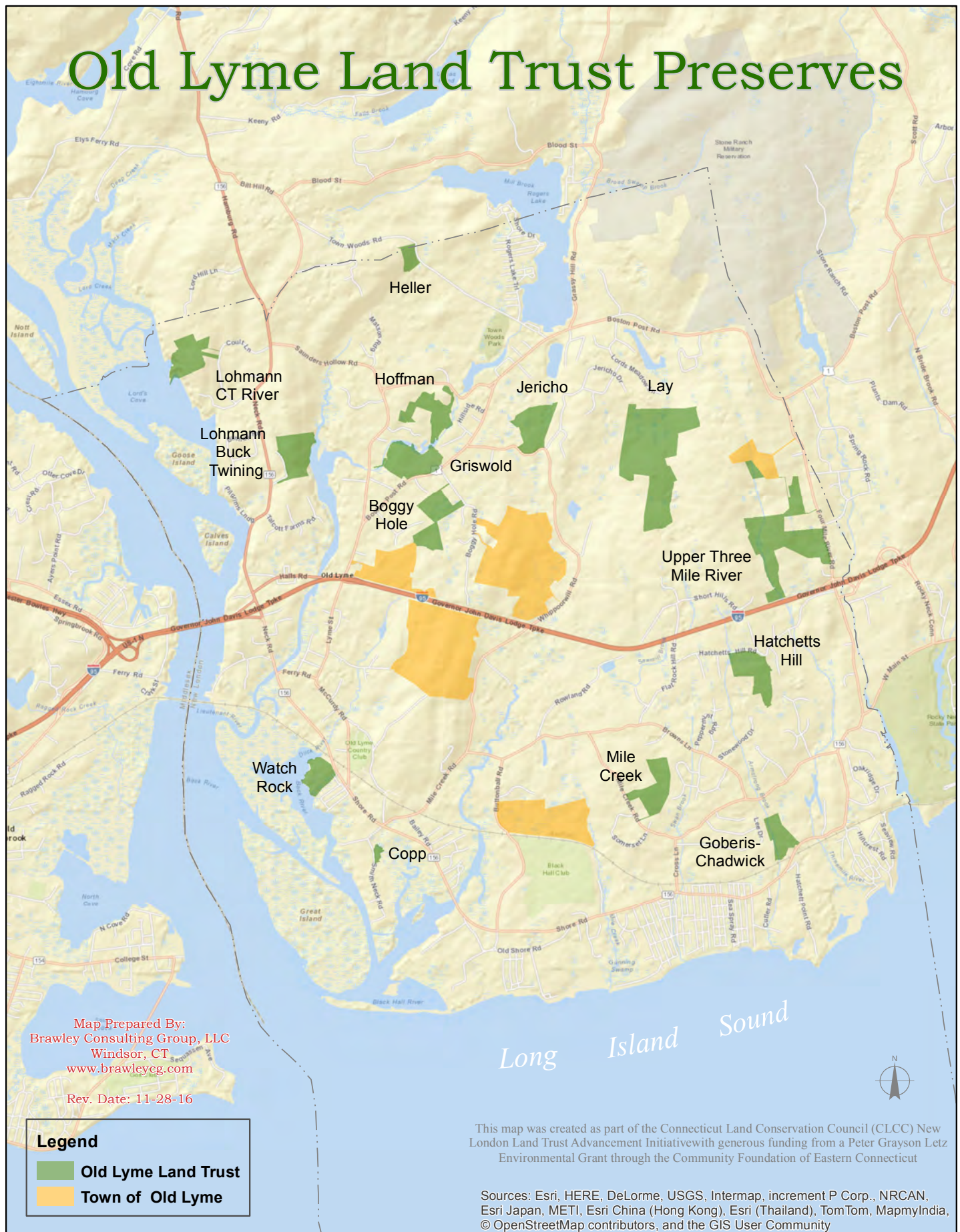
You have an opportunity to double your donation to the Old Lyme Land Trust! The Charter Oak Federal Credit Union is offering its generous matching gifts program again this year. All qualified charitable donations up to \$500 made by Charter Oak members from August 20 – November 27, 2019 will be matched. Please see the Credit Union website for details and to download a matching gift form to send to us with your donation: [charteroak.org/content/matching-gifts/](http://charteroak.org/content/matching-gifts/).

## **McCulloch Farm Property**

The Trust commends the Town of Old Lyme Open Space Commission on its pending acquisition of the 300-acre McCulloch Farm on Whippoorwill Road. This land abuts our 185-acre Lay Preserve, for which we are happy to welcome Mike and Cheryl Bucior as new stewards. Once the acquisition has been finalized, there will be nearly 500 acres of protected fields and woodland open to the public in the center of town, for hiking and other passive recreational uses. This brings the long-envisioned Old Lyme Cross-Town Trail one step closer to becoming a reality. OLLT and the town's Open Space Commission are partnering to create and maintain this unique hiking trail.



# Old Lyme Land Trust Preserves



See reverse for descriptions of the preserves and directions.

Visit [www.oldlymelandtrust.org](http://www.oldlymelandtrust.org) for downloadable trail maps, land history, and other information. Enjoy!

# Old Lyme Land Trust Preserves

**Boggy Hole** – 45 acres. Northern part has wetlands and abundant wildlife. Southern section has wonderful ledge outcrops and an old cart path through open woodland with large trees. Directions: Boston Post Rd to Boggy Hole Rd, trailhead about 600' from intersection on right, OR enter via the town-owned Champlain North Preserve: Boston Post Rd to Rose Ln, right at T onto Hillwood Rd, park in cul-de-sac at end.

Belton **Copp** – 4 acres. Borders a state-owned 32-acre tidal marsh, with views of sunrise and marsh wildlife. Wind chimes and a grove of fairy houses in a garden adorned with fanciful objects are along the “Whimsy Walk” created by local girl scouts. Directions: Rte 156 to 14 Smith Neck Rd, on left 0.25 mi. from turn. Walk through the grassy clearing with a granite bench under a lone cedar tree to the trailhead.

**Goberis-Chadwick** – 25 acres. Bordered by Armstrong Brook. Features rock ledges, huge boulders and stone walls. Alive with spring peepers in early spring and red-tailed hawks year round. Directions: Take the gravel drive at 372 Shore Rd (Rte 156), bear to the left to the parking area. There is a private home on the right; please do not park in the driveway.

George & Woodward H. **Griswold** – 51 acres. Contains forested uplands and ledges, vernal pools, and riparian lowland. Also the site of a CT DEEP fish ladder. There are beavers in the pond and several species of ducks. Many migratory birds visit. Directions: Parking area off Boston Post Rd, directly opposite Stoneleigh Knoll, 2 mi. west of Rogers Lake.

**Hatchetts Hill** – 44 acres. Boardwalks cross Armstrong Brook, which originates here. Land is flat, easy walking through woods of large oak, beech, and maple. The blue trail crosses wetlands that are a haven for amphibians. Directions: Four Mile River Rd to Hatchetts Hill Rd just south of I-95. At Machnik Dr (0.65 mi. from turn) the road goes straight but becomes much narrower. Preserve is 0.15 mi. further on left.

Bob and Esther **Heller** – 16 acres. Flat ledges along the uphill trail are thought to have been used by Native Americans for ritual ceremonies. Directions: Boston Post Rd to 80 Town Woods Rd, on the left just before the big curve where the road enters Lyme.

**Hoffman-Matthiessen-DeGerenday** – 40 acres. Open woodlands with laurel stands and soft patches of ferns. There is a pond formed by an earthen dam, where you may see beavers. Many species of birds present. Directions: Boston Post Rd to 95 Sill Ln (0.3 mi. from turn if Sill Ln is taken from the east, or 1.5 mi. if taken from the west.)

**Jericho** – 50 acres. Dramatic ledge outcrops and thick conifer stands. Ladyslipper orchids in June. Wonderful views from the high points. The fieldstone-clad house is OLLT owned and rented; please respect the tenants' privacy. Directions: Boston Post Rd to Whippoorwill Rd, 0.5 mi. on the left at 44 Whippoorwill Rd.

**Lay** – 185 acres. OLLT's largest preserve. High secluded woodland with considerable wetlands in the lower sectors. Blue heron rookery on site. Directions: Boston Post Rd to Lords Meadow Ln then straight into planned Lords Woods development. Trailhead at 3rd asphalt driveway apron on right.

John **Lohmann CT River** – 42 acres. Lovely terraced fields with a few huge trees, edged by stone walls, leading down to Whaleback Point and frontage on Lords Cove in the CT River. Directions: Trailhead at 33 Coult Ln, off Neck Rd (Rte 156). Park along Coult Ln, but please do not park in front of or directly across from driveways. Can also be accessed from the river by kayak or canoe.

**Lohmann-Buck-Twining** – 46 acres. Includes 2,000 feet of Lieutenant River frontage. Panoramic views of the CT River (west) and the Lieutenant River (east) from the top of the ridge. Bald eagles are often seen here. Directions: Rte 156 to Riverview Dr (right turn at mailbox that says #79). Park in the graveled area at the sharp bend of the road.

**Mile Creek** – 44 acres. Secluded woodland with wetlands created by Swan Brook. You might see turkey, deer, amphibians, and other wildlife here. See website to download a fun self-guided tour along the Mile Creek Educational Nature Trail. Directions: Trailhead parking near mailbox at 191 Mile Creek Rd, 0.2 miles west of Mile Creek School.

**Upper Three Mile River** – 160 acres. Part of the largest remaining undeveloped block of land in Old Lyme. Varied terrain includes cliffs, open ridges, a long piece of the Three Mile River, amazing stone walls, thick conifer groves, stands of laurel, wetlands, and woodlands. A very special place! Level: moderately difficult. Directions: Trailhead across from town transfer station on Four Mile River Rd. Park at the I-95 Exit 71 Commuter Parking Lot a few hundred yards south.

Elizabeth B. Karter **Watch Rock** – 25 acres. Bordered by the Duck River on two sides. Spectacular views from rocky shoreline across the water and tidal wetlands to the CT River and Long Island Sound. Varied habitats of woodlands, meadow, and spruce grove mean there is plentiful wildlife. Directions: McCurdy Rd from Old Lyme town center, cross Rte 156, right turn on Joel Dr, then a left and a quick right to the parking lot. Also accessible by water via kayak or canoe.





# What Will Your Legacy Be?

Sometimes, life can be so busy that it's a challenge just to get through today's to-do list. But that should not preclude making and accomplishing distant goals as well. It's even possible to effect the continued realization of long-term goals after death by directing how assets are distributed.

Many people are surprised at how easy it can be to support a charitable organization this way. Sometimes, a simple statement in a last will and testament is all that's required to leave part or all of the estate to a particular cause. The gift can also be designated for a particular program or activity within an organization.

Consider Mary Steube. Mary was born on November 27, 1910 in Old Lyme. Her father owned the town's grocery store. After the 1938 hurricane, Mary built her house on Whippoorwill Road. It afforded her a closeness to nature, and she loved the wildlife and plants found on the property. Later, she met and married John Steube, a Midwesterner. Although they made their home on Mason's Island for many years, they ultimately returned to the Whippoorwill Road house. Throughout Mary's life, she maintained a passion for nature, so much so that she directed that her home and surrounding property, as well as property on Route 1 and a portion of her financial assets, be given to the Old Lyme Conservation Trust (now the Old Lyme Land Trust) to carry out its mission of preserving Old Lyme's natural, scenic, and historic resources. To this day, her home generates rental income and provides office and meeting space for OLLT, and the endowment she began continues to fund important OLLT activities such as land acquisitions. The property on Route 1 is named the George and Woodward H.

## OLLT Teams Up with the Roger Tory Peterson Estuary Center



OLLT is very pleased that the Roger Tory Peterson Estuary Center uses our preserves to provide environmental education to school children, adults, and families. Activities range from night walks in search of owls, hands-on teaching of children on the Watch Rock and Mile Creek Preserves, and family nature walks (above) on the Watch Rock Preserve. Thanks RTPEC and keep up the great work!

Griswold Preserve (honoring her father and uncle, respectively, per her request), and the Whippoorwill Road property is called the Jericho Preserve; both are open to the public.

As Mary's example illustrates, planned giving makes it possible to have a profound, long-lasting impact on causes that are meaningful to you. While Mary's bequest was financially significant, the monetary value of the gift need not be large in order for it to make a difference. OLLT relies on contributions of all sizes to carry out its work. By remembering OLLT in your will, you will honor your commitment to land conservation in Old Lyme. If a charitable bequest is of interest, set up an appointment with your financial analyst or attorney. These professionals will help guide you through the process, and can inform you of any considerations such as tax benefits that you or your heirs may realize from a charitable bequest.

It's not necessary to be wealthy to leave a legacy. How will you be remembered?



OLLT uses trail cameras to capture pictures of the local wildlife both day and night. Among the residents: an eight-point buck on the Lay Preserve; turkey (top), fox (upper middle), beaver (lower middle), heron (bottom), and skunk on the Hoffman-Matthiessen-Degerenday Preserve; bobcat and coyote on the Lohmann Preserve; and raccoon, opossum, and flying squirrels on the Town of Old Lyme's Ames Preserve. Tracks and scat provide other evidence of their presence; we recommend Janet Pesaturo's Camera Trapping Guide for identifying wildlife using these signs.

# Connecting with Young People

OLLT is fortunate to have many members who have been involved for years, in some cases even decades. However, a healthy organization must continually attract new people, especially those with fresh ideas and energy. Additionally, we know that younger generations are particularly concerned about the environment, climate change, and the importance of natural areas to the health of our planet. In response, OLLT has launched a program to engage a younger demographic in our work. We hope to find new ways to share our beautiful preserves, plan for continuity, foster knowledge of and an appreciation for nature, illustrate local connections to global themes, and spread the OLLT mission to include all ages.

For example, we plan to work with the local Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts to identify ways to benefit the community that are aligned with the OLLT and scouting organizations' goals. See the accompanying article on page 1 about an Eagle Scout service project by Alec Russell at the John Lohmann CT River Preserve.

We are also exploring partnerships with the Phoebe Grif-

fin Noyes Library. Children's librarian Julie Bartley proposed combining an autumn visit to an OLLT preserve with a reading of stories about nature and the wildlife found in that habitat. Another activity may be modeled after the Block Island Free Library's "Healthy Kids Inside and Out" program, which provides backpacks filled with educational tools with the aim of getting kids outdoors to explore the natural environment.

Collaborations involving high school students are also in the works. For example, OLLT is exploring working with the Lyme-Old Lyme High School (LOLHS) Transition and School to Career Program to take advantage of OLLT in students' career planning and preparation. There may also be opportunities to renew a relationship with the LOLHS Community Service Club. Another possibility we plan to investigate is the rehabilitation of the fairy village at the Belton Copp Preserve by art students. (We would be remiss not to mention that the Copp Preserve has a new steward, Peter Engelking—welcome Peter!).

These are just some of the ways that young people can connect with OLLT. Please don't hesitate to contact Mary Devins through our website ([oldlymelandtrust.org](http://oldlymelandtrust.org)) if you are interested in these initiatives or have other ideas.

## OLLT Beaver Policy

Part of OLLT's Mission is to protect wildlife and habitat in Old Lyme.

Beavers are an important component of the wildlife currently found in Old Lyme. They also provide habitat for a wide range of associated wildlife. We believe there is a place for the beaver on some of our holdings.

Beavers can transform habitat and, in the process, flood neighboring properties.

OLLT will assess beaver activity on its holdings on a case-by-case basis.

In situations where beaver activity and its impacts are located entirely on OLLT property, we are inclined to let the activity continue, depending on associated habitat impacts.

In the case where a neighboring property is flooded by beaver activity on an OLLT holding and that neighbor does not object, we are also inclined to let the activity continue.

In situations where a beaver on OLLT property is having negative impacts on a neighboring property or properties (e.g. flooding), we will take measures to mitigate the problem, including (the preferred option) non-lethal interventions such as installation of structures designed to limit the activity and impact of the beavers (e.g., "beaver deceiver", outflow piping, etc.). If those should fail we may ultimately resort to destruction of the dam or even trapping.

In situations where an OLLT holding is not impacted by the activities of beavers that dwell on the land of others, we respect the decisions of the affected landowners with respect to their management decisions in connection with those beavers.

In situations where OLLT determines that one of its holdings has been negatively impacted by beaver activity on a neighboring parcel, we may seek remedy as appropriate.

## 5th Annual OLLT Kayak Regatta



On an absolutely beautiful afternoon last September, and thanks to the organization and inspiration of Fred Fenton, former OLLT Trustee and loyal volunteer, OLLT held its annual Kayak Regatta on the Connecticut River. Over 25 kayakers launched from Pilgrim Landing off Neck Road and paddled to Whaleback Point on the OLLT John Lohmann CT Preserve. There, land trust Trustees and volunteers provided snacks and an overview of the pitch pine regeneration initiative (see Special Place article on page 1). Some participants then paddled further north to Goose Island, much of which is also owned by OLLT, before returning to Pilgrim Landing. Watch our website for information about this year's Regatta: [oldlymelandtrust.org](http://oldlymelandtrust.org).



# Nature Note: Beavers

*Castor canadensis*, the common beaver, is a large, docile rodent that is native to North America. Adult beavers are about four feet long (including a one-foot long tail), and typically weigh 35-66 pounds. Nocturnal and quiet animals, they are best observed at dawn and dusk. Beavers are herbivores, with a diet consisting largely of stems, bark, leaves, roots, twigs, water lily tubers, apples, and clover; they do not eat the woody parts of trees.

Beaver fur has two layers. The outer layer is coarse, long, and glossy and can be yellowish brown, brown, black, or reddish. The fur underneath is made of dense, short, fine hairs. This coat is rendered waterproof by an oily substance called castoreum secreted by glands near the tail and worked into the fur. Beaver pelts were highly valued in the mid-19th century, which significantly contributed to the westward expansion of settlers across the United States and the near extinction of the beaver. Since then, laws limiting trapping have allowed beaver populations to recover.

Beavers live in one of two types of dens. Simple bank dens are dug into a riverbank. The other type is called a "lodge", an approximately 10-foot tall structure made of sticks, trees, rocks, plants, mud, and other materials. Lodges are better suited for slower moving ponds or lakes. Inhabiting a den is a family unit which typically consists of a male and a female (beavers mate for life) along with their last two litters (baby beavers are called "kits"). Beavers have one litter per year, and the food supply and health of the mother determine the size of the litter. This regulates beaver populations at a sustainable level. After two years, young beavers leave to establish their own territory.

Inside the carefully engineered lodge are two platforms, one for drying off upon entry and eating, and a second one that provides an area for caring for kits and sleeping. In the winter, the mud walls freeze solid, creating an insulated space. Beavers do not hibernate, but rather rely on sticks and branches stockpiled in the lodge for food during the cold months.

The beaver escapes predators such as coyotes, bobcats, owls, foxes, otters, mink, hawks, and eagles by swimming

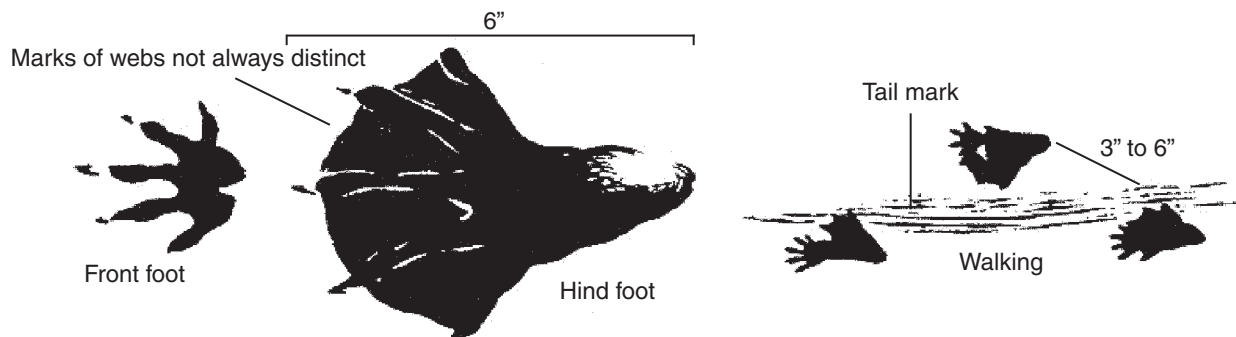


**North American Beaver.** Note the distinctive broad, flat, scaly tail which serves as a rudder when swimming; is slapped on the water surface to warn of predators; stores fat for winter; and acts as a third leg when the beaver stands upright.

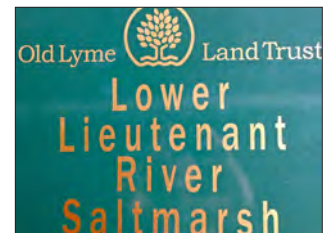
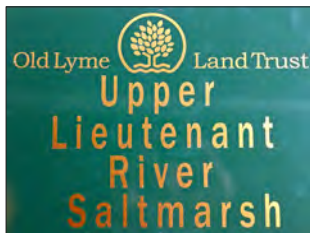
through an underwater opening into the den. If the natural water level is too low to provide a protective moat, beavers will build a dam which may create a pond or other wetlands. (Amazing fact: the largest known beaver dam — detected by satellite in Wood Buffalo National Park in Alberta, Canada — was twice as wide as the Hoover Dam!) They use their strong, orange, chisel-shaped front teeth to girdle trees and fell them, and then float them to the construction site. In populated areas, this can lead to conflicts with humans due to flooding, downed trees, and plugged road culverts.

Beavers provide environmental benefits. Their activities create new habitats that are part of the natural cycle of forest succession, earning beavers the designation of a "keystone species". Over time, wetlands turn into meadows, and eventually a mature forest. The biodiversity in wetlands created by beavers (inhabitants include insects, fish, turtles, frogs, ducks, otter, and birds including osprey) can rival that of a tropical rainforest. Additionally, the ecosystem created by wetlands purifies the water by breaking down toxins and pesticides.

Sources: Beaver Pictures and Facts, accessed at [fohn.net](http://fohn.net)  
[www.pc.gc.ca/en/pn-np/nt/woodbuffalo/decouvrir-discover/beaver\\_gallery](http://www.pc.gc.ca/en/pn-np/nt/woodbuffalo/decouvrir-discover/beaver_gallery)



**Beaver tracks:** While all feet have five toes, the 2-3 inch front foot impression may only include four of its clawed toes. The track of the back foot (6-7 inches long) reveals the webbing found on the rear feet that is used to propel the beaver through the water at speeds up to 5 miles per hour. Image from Clipart-Library.com.



Many people are not aware that OLLT, the largest landowner in town, owns about 200 acres of salt marsh. These properties provide critical habitat for wildlife and contribute scenic value including some of Old Lyme's iconic vistas, such as this view of the Lynde Point Lighthouse in Old Saybrook from across the Black Hall salt marsh.

In the coming months, we will be improving our signage on these holdings – keep an eye out for these signs as you drive around town!

### **OLLT Board Members:**

President:	Michael J. Kiernan
Vice President:	Vacant
Treasurer:	Sabine O'Donnell
Secretary:	Anne Galliher
Trustees:	Susanne Colten-Carey
	Mary Devins
	Lea Harty
	George James
	Ed Silk
	Edie Twining
	Tom Unger

## **Looking for a Project?**

Whether you are looking for a large or more modest commitment, OLLT has ways to get involved! Opportunities include participating in preserve work parties; taking photographs; conducting field-, internet-, and document-based research; integrating technology with OLLT work; and leading special projects. Or, you may have your own proposal. OLLT will consider partnering and providing support for any projects that are consistent with its mission and needs.

***OLLT Mission Statement: The Old Lyme Land Trust is dedicated to conserving Old Lyme's natural, scenic, and historic land and water resources for the benefit of the public now and for generations to come.***



# We gratefully acknowledge all those who have generously donated to OLLT (July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019)

Marie R. Abraham	Jeff & Julie Clarke	Theodore Hendrickson	Mr. & Mrs. William C. Ridgway
Pat & Don Abraham	Constance Cliffe	Hans Hess	Michael Riggio
Amazon Smile	Madeline & Keith Coakley	Pamela Hine	Steven Ross
Amica Companies Foundation	Ken & Eileen Coffee	Paul F. H. Holt	Pierre Rougny
Anonymous	Susanne Colten-Carey	Peter Hunt	Mr. George Ryan
Anonymous	Jeff & Betsey Cooley	Roger & Donna Hurley	Mr. Vladimir S. Sadowski
Bill & Judy Archer	Majbritt Sinay & Robert Cooper	George A. James Jr.	Susan Schlachter
Wayne & Aimee Ashton	Linda Page & Jim Coward	Sue & Don Joffray	Mary & Adam Seidner
Atkinson Family	Ted & Becky Crosby	Len & Lauretta Johnson	Arlene Sherman
Constance Ayars	Mr. & Mrs. Cumello	Michael Kiernan	Pamela R. Shine
Joan & Tim Baffaro	Mr. & Mrs. Robert N. Davis	Kilbride/Fruth Family	Patricia M. Shippee
Ms. Tizzy Bannister	Peter Decker	Katy Klarnet	Sheree & Skip Sibley
William & Martha Bansavage	Mr. Thomas Degnan	Christina Clayton & Stanley Kolber	Anna Silberberg
David E. Barclay	Charles Delinks	Cindy & Dick Kovak	Joan & Jerry Silberberg
Betsy Barry	Joanne DelleCave	Ann Lander	Ed & Deborah Silk
Mr. & Mrs. Truman Bassett	Jon Day & Nina DeMartini-Day	Keri Lantz	Richard & Patty Skinner
Charles & Barbara Beal	Gregory Futoma &	Nancy Larson	Pat & Damon Smith
John & Sue Beatty	Kathleen DeMeo	Anne Galliher & Jonathan Lathrop	Mr. Edward J. Sopneski
Jim & Janet Bechtel	Claudio Denoya	Denise & Larry Lee	Lillian I. Spais
Becker Foundation, Inc.	David Littlefield & Elene Desillier	Ron & Pat Lee	Donna R. Speirs
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Beers	Mary Devins	Dinah & Stephen Lefkowitz	John Stratton
Ellyn & James Behan	Thomas & Gail Dobbins	Joan & Ken Levin	Nan C. Strohma
Danielle Kuczkowski & Olaf	Robert W. Donald	Russell & Diane Linderman	Ralph & Janet Sturges
Bertram-Nothnagel	Al & Denise Dugas	Charlotte Lyman	Susanne Stutts
Mr. & Mrs. Rudolph Besier	Julie & Bill Dunbar	Mark & Leslie Massa	Rick & Linda Sullivan
Shelley Biancamano	Bob & Nancy Dunn	Jim & Susan Mayne	Connie Tapper
Anne Bing	Caroline B. Edge	John P. & Judith A. McCarthy	Andrew Marino & Julie Tarpinian
Amanda Blair	Peter & Jennifer Eio	Mr. & Ms. Paul D. McGill	Katherine Quinn & Andrew Tershak
Ann Bliss	Peter & Constance Engelking	Mark Cabell & Megan McMahon	George & Lynn Thoma
David Bourque	Essex Savings Bank	Juliette Meeus	Bob Tichacek
Michael & Eloise Brady	Pat & Audrey Fay	Newt & Polly Merrill	Barbara S. Trakos
Nicoll Brinley	Ms. Anne M. Finneran	Nicole & Paul Michaud	Joe Trausch
Mary L. Broughton	Anu Godfrey-Fogg & Russ Fogg	Alison Mitchell	Edie Twining
Adam Brown	John & Alison Forbis	Jay Montmeat	Eddie & Suzann Vautrain
Ann H. Brubaker	GE Foundation	Victoria & James Moos	Rino & Judith Vitali
Margaret & Michael Brundage	Henry Golet	Nancy Moskow	Michael & Laurie Walker
Mike & Cheryl Bucior	Don Gonci	Ted & Sallie Mundy	Patsy McCook & Sid Whelan
Brad & Cynthia Burgess	Robert & Lynda Gorman	Jeffrey G. & Darcy E. Murtz	Elizabeth Whitley
Adam S. Burrows	Jeremiah J. Grady	Mary Jo & Roger Nosal	Lucy & Doug Wilkinson
Jane L. Bysko	Kathi Green	John & Barbara Noyes	Ed & Lyn Wolcott
Peter & Jane Cable	Gary Gregory	Albert & Beverly Nuttall	Elizabeth Worthington
Jay & Brandy Campbell	Daniel B. & Gretchen M. Griffin	Agnes Q. O'Connor	David & Lisa Wurzer
Irene Campbell	John Griffin	Sabine O'Donnell	Lorraine Yurkewicz
Shay & Matt Cantner	Timothy Griswold	Ruth Olsen	
John Heckman & Helen Cantrell	Francine Gumkowski	Janice & Tony Orsini	<i>In Memory of Lucius Wilmerding</i>
Paul & Jeanne Carroll	Mr. & Mrs. Robert P. Gunn	Jack Ostroff	Purd & Peggy Wright
Libby & Chris Cathcart	Mr. & Mrs. Robert P. Haff	Bobbie & John Padgett	Celine Sullivan
Charter Oak Federal Credit Union	Karin Hamilton	Elena & Michael Patterson	Matthew Bartholomew &
Jane Chesnutt	Hildegard & Hunter Hannum	Chris & Clayton Penniman	Laura Silverman
Chester Kitchings Family	Roderic Hartung	Edward G. Perkins	George & Jo Ann Harris
Foundation	Lea & Patrick Harty	Pfizer Foundation	Diana N. Blair
Sam & Elsie Childs	Lea Harty, <i>in honor of Mike Kiernan</i>	Linda & Ed Pinn	
Hyun T. Cho	Lucinda & Brian Hautaniemi	John & Rebecca Pote	<i>Membership is open to anyone</i>
Catherine & John Christiano	Mary Stone & Joel Hawkins	Paula & Jim Powers	<i>interested in preserving the land</i>
Jeanne Clark	Mary & Francois Haymann	Martha Quaratella	<i>and keeping Old Lyme green.</i>
Mr. LeRoy Clark	Tom Sherer & Deb Heminway	Jean B. Read	<i>Visit us online at</i>
Kay Knight Clarke	Joan & David Henderson	Elizabeth Karter & Alex Richardson	<i>oldlymelandtrust.org.</i>



## Hiker's Happy Hour: September 5 and October 3

OLLT and the Town of Old Lyme Open Space Commission (OSC) are offering a series of four hikes in town, each followed by a Happy Hour at the Old Lyme Inn. The first two hikes were held in May and June, one led by OSC on the Champlain North Preserve and the second led by OLLT on the George & Woodward H. Griswold Preserve. (By the way, OLLT welcomes Bernadette Powers, Mike Powers, and Rich Porcelli as stewards of this preserve!) The next hikes will be held on September 5<sup>th</sup> and October 3<sup>rd</sup>. We will provide details through our website and notices to our membership. Please join us!



In addition to owning approximately 1,100 acres of land, OLLT holds conservation easements on other acreage, including this 26-acre field on Old Shore Road. Easements such as these ensure that protected land will never be built upon, guaranteeing the preservation of much-loved views, such as the one of Long Island Sound from Old Shore Road.