

MEET TRISTAN WARNER, BARRY CONSERVATION CAMP SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

Tristan was our 2nd annual camp scholarship winner. He was so excited to attend the Barry Conservation Camp in Berlin, NH, during the summer of 2016 and reports that he had a great time. He loved being outdoors and participating in activities like camping at Rodgers' Ledge. He writes " My time at camp was incredible! Despite the fact that I live in the woods, I barely have the chance to camp, or enjoy the outdoors fully, or even connect with nature! So, having gone to Barry Conservation, I have first hand details about the experience I had."



Conservation Commission Chair Susan Wilderman and Tristan Warner

Tristan wrote a wonderful account of his time at camp. Although we don't have enough space to include it all in this newsletter, his full report has been posted on our website.

Tuition for Tristan's week at camp was provided by a camp scholarship fund established in memory of a former Conservation Commission member. It is supported by donations and by sales of the Conservation Commission Calendar. (See pg. 2 for further details)

The camp scholarship recipient is chosen from entries submitted by interested students. The deadline for applications is mid February of each year. Those who are interested may download an application from the CCC website, www.candiaconservationcommission.org.

CCC WARRANT ARTICLES

The CCC has submitted a warrant article for your consideration in the March elections. It reads; "To see if the

Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to transfer the responsibility for and the management of the following town-owned properties to the Candia Conservation Commission and further, to designate these properties, in accordance with RSA 31:110, as part of the Candia Town Forest System at no cost to the Candia taxpayers."

The two parcels of land (map 406-100.1; 18 acres & 406-103.1; 20 acres), abut the southern edge of the Deerfield Road Town Forest and lie across the river from the northern edge of the old New Boston Road Recycling Center. The parcels are predominately land locked wetlands. Placing them under the supervision of the Conservation Commission will assist in the protection of the headwaters of the North Branch of the Lamprey River. It would be beneficial to add them to the Deerfield Road Town Forest and we would be able to do this without incurring any associated costs. The warrant article itself will not cost the tax payers any money. The additional acreage could allow us to expand our trail network from the Deerfield Road Town Forest parcel. We hope you will support this effort at the town elections.

OLD HOME DAY

August 13 was the perfect day to hold Old Home Day. It was a beautiful, sunny day. The CCC staffed a booth, which we shared with Bear-Paw Regional Greenways. We had lots of visitors, who enjoyed looking at our maps and learning more about conservation. It was a wonderful opportunity to meet new neighbors and to renew acquaintances with old ones. We raffled off a toy sea otter donated by Commissioner Judi Lindsey. The proceeds were added to the Barry Conservation Camp Scholarship fund.



Old Home Day booth: Bear-Paw reps Deanna and Sam Demeritt, visitor Carl Pearson, and CCC members Betsy Kruse and Judi Lindsey

TOWN FOREST WALKS

The CCC has been leading walks in our town forests. They are a great way to enjoy our open spaces and learn something about Candia's natural treasures.



CCC chair Susan Wilderman and recent beaver chew in DRTF

Our 2017 Walks/Snowshoe hikes are scheduled for Sunday, **January 16th to Kinnicum Pond**; Sunday, **May 21st to Deerfield Road Town Forest** for a walk and trail clean-up; and Sunday, **August 20th to the Fogarty Road properties**. All will be from 1:00-4:00 p.m. Details will follow on the CCC website and the local newspaper.

A Note From The Chair...

We are so blessed to live in Candia. Geographically we are part of four different watersheds. A watershed is an area of land that drains into a particular body of water. In our case we supply four key rivers: Lamprey, Merrimack, Exeter, and the Suncook Rivers. The Exeter and Suncook rivers enter the Great Bay Estuary and the Lamprey and Merrimack enter the Atlantic Ocean farther south.

Natural resources are interesting; they know no political boundaries. Water that falls from the sky has two main options depending on the time of year: soaking in or running off. We have just come through quite a dry time and some, if not all of us, have had to enact water conservation efforts to ensure our access to water. Unlike most of us in Candia who depend on groundwater for our drinking and living needs, many towns farther down these watersheds rely on surface water from the rivers we send them.

The Lamprey and Merrimack rivers play an important water supply role in our geographic area. We celebrate Manchester Water Works and The Society for the Protection of NH Forests for their recent securing of funds to conserve land around Tower Hill pond. This will make an important contribution in protecting the water supply for Merrimack watershed residents for generations to come.

As a headwater source for the four rivers mentioned above, we have a special responsibility to care for the streams which begin in our town. This is one way we can be good neighbors; if the water leaving our town is clean, we are doing our part to prevent water pollution and protect the water supply for downstream towns. This requires us to consider our neighbors as we use utilize and impact our water resources and plan further development.

If you would like to learn more, please come to one of our meetings or I would be happy to meet with you over a cup of coffee to talk about how you can help protect our water resources!

~ Susan Wilderman, Chairperson

LOOKING FOR A WAY TO HELP?

We currently have a couple of openings on the 7-member Commission. Members are appointed by the Board of Selectmen for 3-year terms (unless they are filling in for a recently retired member). If you are interested in exploring membership on the Commission, but unsure you want to commit yourself as a regular member, we can have an unlimited amount of alternates. We invite you to check us out!

CALENDARS!

The CCC has created 2017 calendars featuring photographs of Candia's natural resources. All proceeds from the 13-month calendar sales go to the Debra Bell Levesque camp scholarship fund. Calendars may be purchased for \$10 at the town office building, at the library, or from commissioners. We invite everyone to email photos for next year's edition to us at info@candiaconservationcommission.org. Be sure to include the location and name of the photographer.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

The CCC holds monthly meetings on the 3rd Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Office Building. The public is welcome to attend. Visit our website for more information and to confirm meeting times and dates:

E-mail: info@candiaconservationcommission.org

Web: www.candiaconservationcommission.org.

Help us keep track of wildlife you see by filling out sighting reports on our website.

**Remember to vote on Tuesday,
March 14, 2017
at the CYAA Field House!**