



Boothbay Region Land Trust

ART FOR ACRES AT OAK POINT FARM

by V. Skye Wood, *Development Director*

This summer will be an art extravaganza at Boothbay Region Land Trust's Oak Point Farm, and you are invited! The diverse event lineup during our multi-day *Art for Acres* ensures something for everyone as nature and art unite. The events kick-off with a ten-day Stone Symposium presented by the Maine Stone Workers Guild. Following this, BRLT will host a meet-the-artist Art Preview reception at Oak Point Farm. Finally, *Art for Acres* culminates in our art auction gala featuring both silent and live auctions. Join us for one, or all of these events!

The public is invited to a unique art experience on the shores of Oak Point Farm during the Maine Stone Workers Guild's Stone Symposium beginning Friday, July 21 and extending through Sunday, July 30. Each day from 10am-4pm, visitors can come out to Oak Point Farm to witness six stone workers perform the unique art of sculpting in stone. This free event will include a crafting tent in which guests can try their hand at their own stone sculpting of soap stone pendants. Learn from the sculptors as they work, ask questions and observe the process. Participating stone workers include John Catizone, Joseph DiMauro, Sam Finkelstein, Isabel Catherine Kelley, Dan Ucci and Andreas von Huene. During the symposium, visitors are also welcome to stop in the

farmhouse to view artwork on display throughout the center, all of which will be included in the silent and live auctions. During this time early bids will be accepted on silent auction items and absentee bids will be accepted on live auction items.

On Wednesday, August 2, the public will have the opportunity to meet the artists who have generously contributed their works of art to the art auction. At this free public reception, guests are invited to walk through the Oak Point Farm visitor center to view (and bid) on all of the art that will be available during the ticketed auction. Attendees can ask questions of the artists and learn more about what sparks their creativity. This event will include light refreshments and, although free, we do ask that attendees RSVP to Skye Wood at vwood@bbrlt.org.

All of these terrific events culminate in our ticketed live art auction on Friday, August 4. Join us under the tent at Oak Point Farm for an evening that is sure to inspire you! BRLT's quadrennial *Art for Acres* art auction gala will showcase a mix of incredible art donated by the region's many noteworthy artists.

(Continued on page 4)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Board Officers

John H. Welsh
President

Rob Wheeler
Vice President

Kathleen Kennedy
Secretary

Valerie Young
Treasurer

Board Members

Tom Abello

Stewart Bither

Cindy Casey

Richard M. Elder

Adam Harkins

Erika Huber

Isabel Lescure

Jeffrey Long

Penny Pollard

Margaret Reiser

Marianne Reynolds

Stan Wakefield

BOARD OF ADVISORS

Louise Bowditch

Nanette Davison

Carl R. Griffin, III

Michael F. Harrison

Dawn E. Kidd

Mary Miller

Chip Newell

Bruce B. Tindal

Jeffrey Wells

STAFF

Nicholas J. Ullo
Executive Director

V. Skye Wood
Development Director

Christine Selman
*Communications &
Outreach Manager*

Tracey Hall
Environmental Educator

Daniel Hill
Stewardship Manager

COVER: Stone Symposium
by Jim Newton

FROM THE DESK OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Nicholas J. Ullo



I'm thrilled to congratulate the Boothbay Region Clean Drinking Water Initiative (BRCDWI) on receiving significant financial support from the Federal Government. In March, 2021, President Biden signed the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), which included funding to support state, local, territorial and tribal projects. Uses for these funds includes capital expenditures, expanding public sector hiring and capacity, and supporting water infrastructure. Our local ARPA initiatives are managed by the Lincoln County Regional Planning Commission. Upon application and review, the Commissioners approved \$195,000 in funding to support the BRCDWI over the period of three years.

Along with BRLT, the other members of the BRCDWI include Bigelow Laboratory for Ocean Sciences, Boothbay Region Water District, Boothbay Region YMCA, Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens, Knickerbocker Lake Watershed Association and the Towns of Boothbay, Boothbay Harbor and Southport. This collaboration of diverse entities sends a message of solidarity behind the BRCDWI mission “to forever safeguard the Boothbay Region public drinking water supply through land conservation, education, stewardship and community collaboration,” and it was most certainly the reason for our application being so well received.

This great news means that not only will our initiative be able to continue our great work of educating the public about the importance of conserving properties in the watershed, but this support should also accelerate the pace of conserving the lands around Knickerbocker Lake and Adams Pond.

The ARPA funds will be used to pay expenses associated with public education and acquisition projects as well as staffing to support these activities. As fiscal agent, BRLT will administer these (and other BRCDWI) funds and will play a key role in the management of staff.

This spring the BRCDWI Steering Committee accepted a proposal by BRLT to create a joint position with Boothbay Region Land Trust focused specifically on land conservation. This Land Conservation Specialist will spend 50% time with BRCDWI focused on watershed protection including administrative support for the initiative, and 50% time focused on BRLT-specific conservation projects. The position is currently posted. By creating a joint position with fulltime employment and benefits through BRLT, it is our hope to find an experienced candidate with a record of land conservation successes who will be prepared to take a leadership role with the Clean Drinking Water Initiative.

We at BRLT are excited to be a part of this important initiative, and we look forward to making great progress on the conservation goals of BRCDWI. BRLT's mission is “to conserve for public benefit the natural habitat, scenic beauty and working land of the Boothbay region” and this collaboration directly supports that mission.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

John H. Welsh

It is exciting to see the efforts that many local groups and organizations are making to address issues in our community. These include affordable housing, protection of our drinking water supply, schools, public safety, our working waterfront, and pressure on our habitat conservation. Boothbay Region Land Trust has been a critical part of the conversations and the work to develop long term solutions to pressures on our quality of life.



Over the past few years, BRLT has seen rapidly growing use of its preserves as young and old seek the physical and mental health benefits that come from outside recreation on these trails. The Land Trust faces challenges managing the growing use of its lands, as well as planning for further protection of local conservation habitat.

Your continued volunteer and financial support is key to positioning BRLT as a leader in enhancing the quality of life for people in our region. I thank you most sincerely for your valued support.

BRLT HOSTS WORKSHOP ON ROAD-STREAM CROSSING

by Christine Selman, Communications & Outreach Manager

This spring Boothbay Region Land Trust partnered with Maine Audubon and Knox Lincoln Soil Water Conservation District to host a Stream Smart Road Crossing workshop at Oak Point Farm. Stream Smart is geared toward those responsible for constructing road-stream crossings. The goal of the program is to educate constituents, including municipal planners, engineers, and others, on best practices for designing stream crossings that are both environmentally friendly and resilient. By designing stream crossings that preserve and recreate natural stream conditions, fish and wildlife benefit, as do land owners and communities who enjoy safer and lower-maintenance crossings.

Historically, stream crossings have created a number of problems for both wildlife and road owners or managers. Narrow culverts, typically perched off the ground, fragment stream habitat. This fragmentation restricts the movement of fish and other wildlife along the stream and degrades habitat up and down stream, especially during storm surges. Simultaneously such culverts are vulnerable to blockages leading to road washouts and flooding.

The Stream Smart workshop provided

specific recommendations to improve stream crossings, including designing crossings that span the width of the natural stream rather than narrowing the stream at the crossing; matching the natural slope of the stream; and allowing the

(Continued on page 7)



Alex Abbott of the US Fish & Wildlife Service uses a sand table with a flume to demonstrate the different impacts of traditional stream crossings and crossings designed with Stream Smart techniques

Art for Acres (Continued from page 1)

Pieces will include paintings, mixed media, photography, jewelry, sculpture and much more. The six sculptures created during the Stone Symposium will be auctioned as well. John Bottero, formerly of Thomaston Place Auction Galleries, with over 30 years of live auction and fine art experience, will be the auctioneer for the evening. Tickets to this special event include hors d'oeuvres, full dinner, and an open bar provided by Seacoast Catering & Lobster Bakes. Guests will have the opportunity to participate in both the live and silent auctions and provide the final bids in both. Tickets are \$150/person, or \$1,500 for a special VIP table, which includes eight reserved seats for you and your select guests. Tickets and VIP tables are limited, so don't delay in securing yours! Tickets may be purchased by phone, at our Oak Point Farm headquarters, or online at bbrlt.org.

Since 1991, Boothbay Region Land Trust has hosted a charity art auction every four years, which has grown in support and scale ever since. With the tremendous support of the art community, many of whom regularly use our preserves as inspiration for their beautiful art, we have been able to raise funds for continued land protection and public access of our picturesque coastal properties. Many of these noteworthy artists such as the renowned Donald Demers, Andrea Peters, Brad Betts, and Corinne McIntyre, just to name a few, have thoughtfully supported this event for years. We are so grateful for each and every one of them, as well as for the community-minded businesses, whose commitment make this event possible. A very special thanks to Tindal & Callahan for being the Title Sponsor of *Art for Acres*, as well as Knickerbocker Group, Midcoast Hospitality, First National Bank, Studio 53 and Back Meadow Farm for their Charity Auction Sponsorship.



On the Hard by Edward Parker (26"x20" framed acrylic painting on canvas)



Above: Purse Seining-Linekin Bay by Jim Newton (38"x18"
Dye Sublimation on Aluminum Print)

Below: Trout by Andreas von Huene (66"x21"x64" on
pedestal granite sculpture)



ART FOR ACRES: ARTISTS & SCULPTORS

- | | |
|---|---|
| Dick Alden | Kathleen Jones |
| Priscilla Alden | Isabel Kelley |
| Grant Auber | Dinny Kerr |
| Margaret Azzoni | Jean Kigel |
| Andre Benoit | Robert Kofman |
| Brad Betts | Jennifer Litchfield |
| Kathleen Billis (courtesy
of Kerr+Jones Fine Art
& Craft) | Jasmine McGranaghan |
| Lina Burley (courtesy of
Linda Burley) | Corinne McIntyre |
| John Butke | Roger Milinowski |
| Margaret Canepa | Susan Newbold |
| John Catizone | Jim Newton |
| A.G.A. Correa & Sons | Edward Parker |
| Catherine Day | Andrea Peters |
| Donald Demers | Paula Ragsdale |
| Kim Despres-Villard | Bill Royall |
| Joseph DiMauro | Fran Scannell |
| Peter Felsenthal | John Seitzer |
| Sam Finkelstein | Lynne Seitzer |
| Gayle Fraas | Duncan Slade |
| Daphne Frizzle | Herbert Stees (courtesy
of Kathy Bugbee) |
| Ramone Hanley-Warren | Sarah Strauss |
| Sue Heil Kibbe | Dan Ucci |
| Tony Heyl | Philippe Gabriel Villard |
| Kate Jones | Villard Studio |
| | Andreas von Huene |
| | Sarah Wilde |

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT: BILL & JO HAMMOND

by Christine Selman, *Communications & Outreach Manager*

When Bill and Jo Hammond first moved to the Boothbay Region in 2012, BRLT preserves were

a major draw. They had fallen in love with Porter Preserve during a visit with family, and returned soon after to begin house hunting. They purchased a home on Barter's Island only minutes from the Schoolhouse Pond Preserve. Perhaps it was fate that the two retired educators would become deeply attached to Schoolhouse Pond, the site of a former school. Even before they officially became the preserves "adopters," they had adopted it in their hearts, looking after the trails like their own backyard. At one point, after noticing evidence of bonfires on the preserve, they notified staff and also learned about BRLT's volunteer Preserve Steward program. This formalized their "adoption" of the preserve, making the pair BRLT's eyes and ears on the trail. Bill and Jo regularly monitor the preserve and provide basic maintenance for the trail system from stocking the kiosk, to trimming branches, and refreshing trail blazes.



Retired educators, Bill and Jo Hammond now enjoy opportunities to continue learning and meeting new people as BRLT volunteers

The couple's special affinity for Schoolhouse Pond did not diminish their enthusiasm for BRLT's other preserves. In their first year living in Boothbay, they made a point to visit every land trust property, even those accessible by boat only, and they thoroughly enjoyed these ventures. After dipping their toes in volunteering as Preserve Stewards, Bill and Jo began learning about other volunteer opportunities. They served as water samplers for BRLT's Coastal Water Monitoring program, and more recently began supporting off-shore monitoring through the Maine Coastal Observing Alliance, a consortium of partners including BRLT, which works to coordinate regional water monitoring across the midcoast.

Bill and Jo also support Apple Corps, BRLT's initiative focused on maintaining the vitality of its orchards across the preserves, as well as Easement Monitoring, which requires training on the specific regulations of individual easements held by BRLT. Bill notes that one of the most rewarding aspects of being a BRLT volunteer is learning new skills. From chainsaw safety, to grafting apple trees, to monitoring salinity, pH, and

oxygen in water, being a volunteer has given these two teachers the opportunity to continue learning and meeting interesting new people, both of which have been important features of their lives.

Bill and Jo are endlessly dedicated helpers, eager to pitch in, and known for their smiles and kindness. From work parties, to special events, to clean-ups, to literally packing and hauling boxes when BRLT moved offices, Bill and Jo are generous with their time and support. Jo notes, "BRLT helps me connect to the incredibly diverse natural beauty that is Maine. This community has it all: fields; forest; shoreline—so many habitats. The Land Trust gives me access to all of this within minutes of my house and allows me to connect to it all, as well as connecting with the community." Likewise, volunteers like the Hammonds play a key role in connecting the Land Trust to the broader community. We are grateful for their support!

To learn more about volunteer opportunities with BRLT, please visit our website, or email brlt@bbrrt.org.

Stream Smart (Continued from page 3)

stream crossing to be made of natural material on the bed and along the sides of the crossing using substrate. These techniques allow streams to act like streams, providing more space for wildlife to navigate the waterways naturally and eliminating narrow points that are easily choked-off or inundated in storm surges.

The workshop featured ten presenters from a variety of agencies including the Department of Transportation, US Fish and Wildlife, Maine Forestry Service, Maine DOT, US Army Corps, Dept. of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife, Natural Resource Conservation Service, The Nature Conservancy, and Land Use Planning Commission. Presentations focused on everything from practical discussions of strategy, which were enhanced by the use of a demonstration flume/sand table to model different design options, to technical discussions, legal requirements, funding opportunities, and more. We had a total of 29 attendees at the workshop

hailing from Perry, Bristol, South Bristol, Waldoboro, Jonesboro, Monmouth, Old Orchard Beach, Farmington, Rockport, Norridgewock, Orono, Bangor, Lincolnville, Bath, Lewiston, Augusta, Portland, South Portland, and one person from Manchester NH! The workshop was only the second in-person training offered in the state since the pandemic and clearly there was a great deal of pent-up demand. BRLT was pleased to bring this opportunity to Lincoln County in particular, helping support Stream Smart design in Midcoast Maine.

Stream Smart partner Sarah Haggerty of Maine Audubon noted the wonderful hospitality and great space provided by Oak Point Farm. Many attendees enjoyed a picnic lunch and a walk on the trails following the workshop. The workshop once again demonstrates the potential for BRLT's new headquarters to serve as a hub for environmental education in our community.

MEET BRLT'S SUMMER INTERNS: ISAAC DOSTIE & WILL MCPHEE



Isaac Dostie hails from Gardiner, Maine and recently completed his first year at Colby College, studying Biochemistry. Isaac has experience providing maintenance support for the town of Hallowell through Hallowell Public Works, as well as various leadership experiences through his extra-curricular activities. He will be joining BRLT this summer as a stewardship intern, working primarily on the preserves with Daniel, but at times, supporting other land trust efforts including programming and special events. Isaac notes that as a child he frequently went on kayaking trips in Harpswell and hiking trips in various places throughout Maine. "I spent the majority of my life outdoors," he recalls, "and am thankful to be able to spend the summer doing what I love."



Will McPhee graduated in May from the University of Maine School of Forest Resources with a degree in Parks, Recreation, and Tourism. Will spent five summers working at Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens as an intern and gardener. This summer, Will is joining BRLT as a general intern, supporting all aspects of land trust work including education, administration, and stewardship. "I have been coming to Boothbay my entire life, and have spent many years enjoying the sights and scenery of the many beautiful Boothbay Region Land Trust properties," Will notes. "I am excited to be working as a general intern with the Boothbay Region Land Trust this summer and helping to preserve and promote the very same land that I have enjoyed for so many years, and give back to the community that I have grown up in!"



PO Box 183 / 60 Samoset Road
Boothbay Harbor ME 04538

Tel: 207.633.4818 | Web: BBRLT.org
Email: brlt@bbrlt.org

Nonprofit Org.
US Postage
PAID
Permit #3
Boothbay Harbor
ME 04538

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

FOLLOW US:   

The Boothbay Region Land Trust seeks to conserve for the public benefit the natural habitat, scenic beauty and working land of the Boothbay region.



SAVE-THE-DATE!

ANNUAL MEMBER MEETING
SEPT 27, 5PM
NEWAGEN SEASIDE INN



SAVE THE DATE:

BOOTHBAY REGION LAND TRUST
OPEN HOUSE FOR EDUCATORS

JULY 12TH FROM 9AM-12PM

OAK POINT FARM
60 SAMOSET RD BOOTHBAY HARBOR



- REFRESHMENTS
- TOURS
- INFO ON FREE SCHOOL PROGRAMS
- BBRLT.ORG/EVENTS FMI AND TO REGISTER

2023 Annual Conservation Partners:

