

**Aquidneck Land Trust's  
20<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting Speaking Program  
6:00pm-7:50pm, February 4, 2010  
Atlantic Beach Club**

- I. Welcome - 5 minutes – Steve MacGillivray (start at 6:45pm sharp after buffet)

**Slide #1 Aquidneck Land Trust's 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, February 4, 2010, Atlantic Beach Club, Middletown (with logos of all sponsors included on the slide as well)**

Welcome and thank you for attending the Land Trust's 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting. I'm Steve MacGillivray, the Land Trust's outgoing Board Chair, and I'm delighted to see so many of you here tonight.

Tonight, we not only celebrate the work of the Aquidneck Land Trust this past fiscal year but also over the past twenty years and I'm happy to tell you that the state of your Land Trust remains strong, steadfast and very busy.

We are grateful to our generous Annual Meeting sponsors: the Atlantic Beach Club; Belgravia Imports; Greenvale Vineyards; Green Valley Country Club; Newport Harbor Corporation; Newport Investment Management; Phoenix Bulk Carriers; Russell Morin Fine Catering; Campo & Company; and PDQ Printing & Copying, Inc.

Now we will enter the business session of the Annual Meeting.

I urge you to review our 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Report. It chronicles a truly remarkable year.

I am happy to introduce Richard Bauchspies, ALT's Treasurer, who will give the finance report for the fiscal year that ended September 30, 2009.

**Slide #2 Richard E. Bauchspies, Jr., CFA, Treasurer**

*Steve leaves the podium, Richard arrives.*

- II. Business Session – 20 minutes – Richard Bauchspies and Mary Bush-Brown

- a) Finance Report – 10 minutes – Richard Bauchspies

*Richard delivers comments based on following slides...*

**Slide #3 FY 2009 Public Support & Revenue**

**Slide #4 FY 2009 Expenses**

**Slide #5 Stewardship Endowment**

**Slide #6 Three Year Funding Plan**

Thank you. Now please welcome Mary Bush-Brown, Chair of the Land Trust's Board Governance Committee.

**Slide #7 Mary Bush-Brown, Board Governance Committee Chair**

*Richard leaves podium, Mary arrives.*

b) Board Governance Report – 10 minutes – Mary Bush-Brown

1. Outgoing Trustees

**Slide #8 List of Outgoing Trustees**

On behalf of the entire organization, I would like to thank our outgoing Trustees: Dena L. Bayer; Jonathan K. Gewirz; and Stephen J. MacGillivray, Esq. These individuals each provided outstanding years of volunteer service. Please join me in thanking these special individuals for their enormous contributions to the Land Trust and our community.

2. Renewing Trustees

**Slide #9 List of Trustees Renewing for Another Two-Year Term**

I would like to thank the following Trustees for their willingness to renew for another two-year term: Charles B. Allott, Esq.; Patricia Bilden; Robert A. Carrellas, M.D.; William J. Corcoran, Esq.; Louis Escobar; Kim Fleming; Mark D. Hellendrung; Katherine E. Irving; Paul Nunes; and Linda L. Ujifusa, Esq.

May I have a motion that these people be accepted for another two-year term?

*Motion made.*

May I ask for a second?

*Seconded.*

All in favor?

*Vote.*

The motion passes. Thank you.

3. New Trustees

**Slide #10 List of New Trustees**

The members of the Land Trust's Board Governance Committee have done an outstanding job identifying and recruiting a new terrific individual to join the Land Trust's Board of Trustees: Jane M. Timken, Ph.D.

May I have a motion that the new nominee be accepted as presented?

*Motion made.*

May I ask for a second?

*Seconded.*

All in favor of the nominations?

*Vote.*

The motion passes. Thank you.

4. Slate of Officers

**Slide #11 Slate of Proposed Officers**

I am pleased to present the following slate of proposed officers for the Land Trust's Board of Trustees for 2010: Stephen A. DeLeo, Esq., Chair; William J. Corcoran, Esq., Vice Chair; Richard E. Bauchspies, Jr., CFA, Treasurer; and Jameson Chace, Ph.D., Secretary.

Pursuant to our bylaws, may I ask the members of the Land Trust's 2010 Board of Trustees to vote. May I have a motion from a member of the Board of Trustees that the slate be accepted as presented?

*Motion made.*

May I ask for a second?

*Seconded.*

All in favor of the nominations?

*Vote.*

The motion passes. Thank you.

5. Closure

**Slide #12 2010 Board of Trustees and Officers**

Welcome to the 2010 Land Trust Board of Trustees

May I have a motion to adjourn the business session of the annual meeting?

*Motion made.*

May I ask for a second?

*Seconded.*

All in favor?

*Vote.*

The motion passes. Thank you.

Now please welcome Ted Clement, Executive Director of the Land Trust.

**Slide #13 Edward Sortwell Clement, Jr., Esq., Executive Director**

*Mary leaves podium, Ted arrives.*

III. Executive Director's Report – 20 minutes – Edward Sortwell Clement, Jr.

a) **Slide #14 Conservation Successes in Fiscal Year 2009 (use with scenic photo of property conserved in FY 2009)**

Thank you for coming this evening.

I want to thank this evening's sponsors again: the Atlantic Beach Club; Belgravia Imports; Greenvale Vineyards; Green Valley Country Club; Newport Harbor Corporation; Newport Investment Management; Phoenix Bulk Carriers; Russell Morin Fine Catering; Campo & Company; and PDQ Printing & Copying, Inc.

I want to thank ALT's outstanding Board of Trustees. These critical volunteer leaders give generously of their time and resources, and they empower me with their positive support and wisdom so that I may do my job. We as an island community benefit greatly from their altruism.

I also want to thank the terrific staff at ALT: David Thalmann, Director of Finance and Administration; Andy Arkway, Stewardship Director; Jessica Pohl, Development Director; Diana Britton, Office Manager; and Courtney Huth, Assistant Development Director. I am so pleased and inspired by all that our small team accomplished together in Fiscal Year 2009.

The Land Trust had another outstanding year in Fiscal Year 2009, which ran from October 2008 through September 2009, and that is good news for everyone who loves Aquidneck Island.

**Slide #15 2009 Land Matters Walk & Talk Series: Sweet Berry Farm Tour; Gooseneck Cove Tour; and Oakland Forest and Meadow Preserve Tour (use with picture of one of our tours)**

The purpose of ALT's Land Matters Walk & Talk Series is to give the public the opportunity to get out on our conserved parcels so that people can better connect with nature and ALT's work. We believe that experiential education is the most powerful form of environmental education. In 2009, ALT offered 3 free educational tours on 3 different and unique conserved parcels.

**Slide #16 2009 Conservation Speaker Series: Larry Anderson; Glenn McRae, Ph.D.; and Tom Wessels (use with pictures of all speakers)**

ALT has another free environmental education series: our Conservation Speaker Series. The purpose of ALT's Conservation Speaker Series is to bring an important conservation speaker to each of Aquidneck Island's

three communities over the course of a year so as to deepen the dialogue on our island about conservation. Through this program, three leading conservation speakers gave presentations to audiences on Aquidneck Island in 2009.

**Slide #17 2009 Merritt Neighborhood Fund Awards (use with picture of Merritt project, ideally a community garden one)**

The purpose of ALT's Merritt Neighborhood Fund, named after ALT's visionary past President, Peter Merritt, is to provide neighborhood and community groups with modest funding to support conservation and land use projects at the local level so as to strengthen community identity and conservation efforts. In 2009, 9 grant awards, totaling \$9,993, were given to various organizations for local conservation projects, with a special focus on supporting community gardens.

**Slide #18 Boulevard Nurseries Conserved, Agricultural, Scenic and Public Recreation Values, 29.46 +/- Acres, Middletown (have split screen – one photo of Boulevard Nurseries and one of the 2,000 conserved acres party)**

Our first land acquisition project in Fiscal Year 2009 was spectacular and was a sign of many good things to come. In October 2008, ALT, the Town of Middletown and the Kempenaar family partnered together to conserve 29.46 +/- acres of the strategic and visible Boulevard Nurseries on East Main Road. With this successful closing, ALT reached and surpassed the 2,000 conserved acre milestone and we celebrated together in style.

**Slide #19 Town of Middletown's \$2 Million Open Space Bond Passes!!! (use with photo of ALT staff holding vote for open space cow signs at Middletown Town Hall)**

In the early part of Fiscal Year 2009, ALT worked diligently to educate Middletown voters on the importance of approving a \$2 million Open Space Bond. On November 4, 2008, Middletown voters en masse approved the bond.

Considering the Middletown Open Space Bond and Boulevard Nurseries conservation transaction, let us applaud Middletown and its Middletown Open Space and Fields Committee for its support and leadership on conservation matters.

**Slide #20 Sakonnet Greenway Trail - Phase IB Constructed and Opened (use with good photo of the November 8, 2008 Phase IB trail opening/first Race for Open Space)**

ALT made great strides with its Sakonnet Greenway Trail in Fiscal Year 2009. In November 2008, ALT finished building and opened to the public Phase IB of the Sakonnet Greenway Trail. The opening was done with ALT's inaugural 5k Race for Open Space that included 300 runners and walkers and was successfully Chaired by Linda Ujifusa. This new 1.2 mile section of the trail linked the previously constructed 1.5-mile Phase IA section with the previously constructed 2.2-mile section around Newport National giving us a total of about 5 linked and continuous miles of free, public nature trail. By 2011, we plan to complete yet another section of the Sakonnet Greenway Trail so that the trail will stretch from The Glen in Portsmouth to Middletown's public recreation area on Wyatt Road, for a total length of about 9 miles. This trail will connect people directly with ALT's work and the wonders of our natural environment and in the words of Rachel Carson, "The more clearly we can focus our attention on the wonders and the realities of the universe, the less taste we shall have for destruction."

**Slide #21 Swan Farm Conserved, Agriculture, Wildlife Habitat, Scenic and Water Resource Values, 124.38 +/- Acres, Portsmouth (scenic photo of Swan Farm)**

In December 2008, ALT partnered with Barbara van Beuren, the Town of Portsmouth and others to conserve 124.38 +/- acres of Swan Farm on Wapping Road. In addition to conserving important agricultural lands, one of the largest remaining forests on Aquidneck Island was protected as part of the transaction.

**Slide #22 Green Valley Country Club Conserved, Public Recreation, Water Resource and Scenic Values, 126.37 +/- Acres, Portsmouth (scenic photo of Green Valley)**

In February 2009, ALT partnered with the Town of Portsmouth and Ron Raposa to conserve 126.37 +/- acres of Green Valley Country Club on Union Street. Per engineering studies, this land could have been turned into a 127-lot subdivision which would have placed immense and perpetual infrastructure demands and costs on our island.

Considering the help Portsmouth gave us on Swan Farm and Green Valley, let us applaud the Town of Portsmouth and its Portsmouth Open Space Committee for its support and leadership on conservation matters.

**Slide #23 Braga Park Conserved, Public Recreation, Water Resource and Scenic Values, 8.35 +/- Acres, Newport (scenic photo of Braga Park)**

In 2009, ALT announced its new Newport Conservation Initiative, a two-pronged conservation strategy focused on parks and important landscapes in Newport.

Shortly thereafter, in July 2009, ALT partnered with Newport and placed a perpetual ALT Conservation Easement on the 8.35 +/- acre Braga Park, strategically situated next to Easton's Pond, one of our public drinking water reservoirs, to ensure that this park always remains an important public open space area.

Let us applaud Newport and its Newport Tree and Open Space Commission for its support and leadership on conservation matters.

**Slide #24 Merrillton Estate Conserved, Scenic and Historic Values, 2.29 +/- Acres, Newport (scenic photo of Merrillton Estate)**

In July 2009, ALT completed another conservation project as part of its Newport Conservation Initiative when we worked with Marcella McCormack to place a Conservation Easement on the historic Merrillton Estate.

**Slide #25 ALT Awarded National Accredited Status (photo of the accreditation seal)**

In August 2009, ALT was awarded national accredited status by the Land Trust Accreditation Commission. The Commission's mission is to recognize community institutions that meet national quality standards for protecting important natural places and working lands forever. The Land Trust Accreditation Commission is governed by an independent Board of diverse land conservation and nonprofit management experts from around the country. Let me tell you, there would have been hell to pay if we were not accredited as we spent about one year diligently preparing our application before submitting it. I would like to acknowledge the exceptional efforts of David Thalmann in this process. Of the over 40 land trusts in Rhode Island, ALT is the first to have achieved this national distinction. The accredited status means that ALT has a scrutinized and proven track-record of excellence in compliance with laws, Board accountability, ensuring sound land acquisition transactions, stewardship, financial management, avoiding conflicts of interest, etc.

**Slide #26 Valley Associates II Conserved, Water Resource, Wildlife Habitat and Scenic Values, 6.65 +/- Acres, Middletown (scenic photo of Valley Associates II)**

In September 2009, the last month of our Fiscal Year 2009, we partnered with a group of local businessmen to conserve a strategic 6.65 +/- acre

watershed property that helps protect Bailey's Brook from harmful runoff. This property was contiguous with, or near, a number of other parcels conserved by ALT and its partners in the Bailey's Brook corridor.

**b) Slide #27 ALT's 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary (use with ALT's 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary logo)**

2010 marks the Aquidneck Land Trust's 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year as the organization was founded as a non-profit in 1990.

Over 20 years, your partnership with ALT has produced incredible results. Together we protected numerous local farms, such as Sweet Berry Farm, Escobar's Highland Farm and Aquidneck Farms, that provide us with fresh local foods. We conserved many water resource areas, such as Lawton Valley Reservoir, Sisson Pond and St. Mary's Pond, that provide us with critical drinking water supplies. Together we created and protected free public outdoor recreation areas, such as the Sakonnet Greenway Trail and Miantonomi Memorial Park, that enable us to exercise and connect with the natural world. We saved wildlife habitat, such as the Oakland Forest and Meadow Preserve, that supports numerous at risk species such as the Barn Owl, Piping Plover and Northern Leopard Frog. And thanks to our partnership and hard work, together we all enjoy priceless scenic vistas, such as Newport Vineyards on East Main Road and Gooseneck Cove on Ocean Drive, that contribute to our quality of life.

I have had the distinct pleasure and honor of serving ALT for the past decade. During that time, I have seen how a small but growing ALT family enables us to accomplish our time-sensitive land conservation work against incredible odds. Our small but growing family is made up of visionary landowners, wonderful volunteers, such as our Trustees, Advisors and committee members, generous donors, both large and small, committed staff, enlightened government officials, caring voters and others. It makes me think of the famous statement from anthropologist Margaret Mead: "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed it is the only thing that ever has." Considering our lasting, landscape level green achievements in Fiscal Year 2009, and these past 20 years, it is clear that you, our supporters, are living proof of the veracity of Margaret Mead's observation. Thank you ALT supporters!

**Slide #28 ALT's Most Valuable Preservationist ("MVP") Awards**

*Steve MacGillivray and Steve DeLeo move forward and stand near the awards table next to the podium.*

Numerous people and entities have distinguished themselves as consistent and outstanding supporters of ALT over the past twenty years: Kathy Irving; the Town of Portsmouth; Peter Merritt; the Town of Middletown; Michele Foster; the City of Newport; Chuck Allott; Ronnie Dick; Steve Haire; Anne and Peter Damon; Mil Kinsella; Bob Victor; and many more.

However, even within this distinguished group of visionary supporters, there are 3 that stand out as having helped ALT the most over the past 20 years, and tonight we recognize these special 3 with ALT's Most Valuable Preservationist Awards. These are our MVPs and they share something in common. They are all foundations with strong ties and commitments to the Aquidneck Island community. From our early days, these 3 foundations were there to provide ALT with critical financial, intellectual and moral support. Then, in 1998, the 3 came together and increased their support for ALT by providing us with major 5-year grants. This enabled ALT to hire professional staff and take the organization's land acquisition activities to completely new levels. Having the vision to recognize that the open space land acquisition window will only be open for so many more years on this lovely island, and understanding that this may be the only opportunity we have to get it right and strike a more sustainable balance, these 3 foundations' critical, life-blood support of ALT continues to this day. Our best estimates indicate that the bulk of the open space land acquisition, for development or conservation, will have been completed in about 10 years. Then, when people and historians begin to more clearly reflect back on this period, the final land acquisition chapter on Aquidneck Island, the magnitude and importance of these 3 foundations will become crystal clear. Without further ado, the Aquidneck Land Trust's 3 MVPs.

First, in alphabetical order, the Alletta Morris McBean Charitable Trust. Would the McBean Chair, Donald Christ, please come forward to accept an ALT MVP award from our outgoing Board Chair Steve MacGillivray and new Board Chair Steve DeLeo.

*Donald Christ comes forward from reserved speakers tables and receives award and shakes hands with Steve MacGillivray, Steve DeLeo and Ted Clement. Donald remains in the podium/awards area.*

Next, the Prince Charitable Trusts. Would Prince Trustee, Bill Wood Prince, please come forward to accept an ALT MVP award.

*Bill Wood Prince comes forward from reserved speakers tables and receives award and shakes hands with Steve MacGillivray, Steve DeLeo and Ted Clement. Bill remains in the podium/awards area.*

Now, the van Beuren Charitable Foundation. Would the van Beuren Vice-President and Treasurer, Archie van Beuren, please come forward to accept the ALT MVP award.

*Archie van Beuren comes forward from reserved speakers tables and receives award and shakes hands with Steve MacGillivray, Steve DeLeo and Ted Clement. Archie remains in the podium/awards area.*

Ladies and gentlemen, please join me in showing our incredible appreciation to the Aquidneck Land Trust's 3 MVPs.

Now please welcome ALT's outgoing Board Chair, Steve MacGillivray, whom I have had the great pleasure of working closely with for the past 2 years.

*Ted Clement and others leave podium/awards area and return to reserved speakers tables, except for Steve MacGillivray who remains.*

**Slide #29 Stephen J. MacGillivray, Esq., Outgoing Board Chair**

IV. Outgoing Chair's Remarks – 10 minutes – Steve MacGillivray

**Slide #30 ALT's Conserved Acres over the Past 20 Years (slide of conserved acres chart)**

*Steve delivers remarks...*

Now please welcome ALT's new Board Chair, Steve DeLeo.

*Steve MacGillivray leaves podium and Steve DeLeo arrives.*

**Slide #31 Stephen A. DeLeo, Esq., Board Chair**

V. New Chair's Remarks – 10 minutes – Steve DeLeo

**Slide #32 ALT's Conserved Acres over the Past 20 Years (slide of scrolling chronological list of ALT's conserved properties)**

*Steve delivers remarks...*

I would now like to adjourn the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Aquidneck Land Trust. Let us all work to make 2010 another great year for the Land Trust, and thus a great year for our community!

**Slide #33 Show introductory Slide #1 again**