A LETTER FROM THE BOARD CHAIR | 2012

Dear Fellow Aquidneck Islanders:

It has been a privilege to serve as Chairperson of the Aquidneck Land Trust Board of Trustees for the past year. As you will see in this Annual Report, ALT has enjoyed much success. Since our last Annual Meeting, ALT has conserved an additional 35 acres and now successfully stewards a total of 2,419 acres of open space for the lasting benefit of our community. On a sadder note, in December 2012, ALT’s Executive Director, Ted Clement, left to take a job in Hawaii. Ted was an amazing leader who helped conserve over 2,000 acres during his 12 year tenure with ALT. Although Ted has left, his legacy of protecting Aquidneck Island’s open spaces will last for generations to come. On behalf of all of us, I give Ted heartfelt thanks and best wishes for his future endeavors.

Because of ALT’s past success, some have asked me, “Is there much left for ALT to do?” The answer is a resounding, “Yes!” The ALT mapping project completed in 2012 determined that approximately 3,000 open space acres remain at risk of development within Aquidneck Island’s main watersheds. In addition, there are parcels on Aquidneck Island that are generally assumed to be “protected,” but which, in fact, remain at risk. The Glen, in Portsmouth, for example, is not currently protected by a strong perpetual conservation easement – as ALT proposes in its plan to “Protect and Enhance the Glen.” Moreover, as ALT’s conserved properties continue to expand, so does the stewardship work ALT must do to protect such lands in perpetuity.

Is there much time left to conserve Aquidneck Island properties? No one has a crystal ball, but the real estate market appears to be “recovering” and development pressures could become insurmountable in a matter of years.

Happily, I can report that ALT is fully prepared to move forward under new leadership to continue to protect the drinking water, agriculture, recreation, scenic vistas and overall quality of life on Aquidneck Island. Attorney and long-time ALT volunteer, Charles (“Chuck”) Allott, stepped in as Interim Executive Director on December 14, 2012, and has been working closely with our talented and experienced staff to make sure ALT’s work proceeds uninterrupted as we conduct a national search for a permanent Executive Director. Chuck has specialized in real estate and municipal law in private practice, and has been an assistant town solicitor, a town councilperson, and a law school adjunct professor. Chuck began volunteering for ALT in 1990, and has served as an ALT Board member, Chair of ALT’s Strategic Direction and Land Acquisition Committees, and a member of ALT’s Stewardship, Merritt Neighborhood Fund, Legal Defense and Executive Committees. Chuck, not surprisingly, has hit the ground running.

In conclusion, I want to express my deep appreciation to the ALT Staff, Board of Trustees, Board of Advisors, land owners, donors, members, and all our public and private partners and supporters. It is because of you that ALT has been able to pursue so successfully its mission of “preserving Aquidneck Island’s open spaces and natural character for the lasting benefit of our community.” It is because of you that ALT will continue to protect the Island we love.

Sincerely,

Linda Ujifusa
Board of Trustees, Chair

A LETTER FROM THE INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR | 2012

Dear Members and Supporters

First, I would like to thank the Aquidneck Land Trust (ALT) Board of Trustees for giving me the opportunity to serve as your Interim Executive Director. As most of you know, Ted Clement, our great former Executive Director, left ALT in mid-December, 2012. Since that time, I have had the honor and privilege of working with our very talented and committed staff and volunteers to carry on our important conservation mission while the Board conducts a nationwide search for a permanent Executive Director.

I am thrilled to be able to pursue my passion for land conservation on the Island where I have been a resident for the last 36 years and as a leader of an organization with whom I have volunteered since its inception.

My long involvement with ALT has given me a deep appreciation for what it took to get us to where we are today. We started as a group of volunteers with nothing but a dream of conserving Aquidneck Island’s open spaces. Success was not yet defined in terms of annual acreage preserved but in terms of creating a solid organization and setting reasonable goals. We focused on collecting and mapping data of Island properties to create a rational approach to future land conservation efforts. A bit later, others found the way, with the assistance of generous donors, to fund a land trust staff and elevate the Board of Trustees from a working board to a governing board. Incredibly, extraordinarily generous and visionary land owners, many of whom sacrificed significant financial gain, then partnered with ALT to conserve their land. Add to these supporters, countless others who work or donate in large and small ways and the lesson is clear: ALT’s successes are community successes resulting from community efforts.

Beyond its larger land conservation projects, ALT has also undertaken smaller, but nonetheless, significant community partnerships. ALT started its Young Friends Program and partnered with local schools (Pennfield and the MET School) and community youth organizations such as the Boy Scouts to encourage future generations of land conservationists to learn about and take actions to protect our Island’s environment. ALT also is working with a number of other Island non-profits to create the Scenic Aquidneck Coalition. One of the Coalition’s initial proposed projects is to work with the Town of Middletown, utility companies to place all utilities underground along Sachuest Point Road from Surfer’s End to the Wildlife Refuge. In the past 14 years, the Merritt Neighborhood Fund has given $64,000 of grants to over 45 community organizations on Aquidneck Island to support their preservation of small parks, playgrounds, and other natural spaces. ALT also continues to work with a coalition of organizations to develop the “Island Commons,” a sustainability center at St. Mary’s. Thus, while ALT’s main focus has been conserving acres, it has also actively worked to educate and engage our community.

I look forward to helping ALT continue its record of success. I realize I stand on the shoulders of those who have made ALT what it is today. I sincerely thank them and promise I will do my utmost to continue to earn community support and ensure Aquidneck Island remains the place in which we have all been so fortunate to live.

Thank you.

Charles B. Allott, Interim Executive Director
OCTOBER 2011
• Attended the national Land Trust Alliance Rally in Wisconsin.

NOVEMBER 2011
• Hosted ALT’s 5th annual Race for Open Space on the Sakonnet Greenway Trail.
• Acquired a perpetual Conservation Easement from Philip S. Dey on his land in Middletown, a critical 18.83-acre watershed property.
• Acquired a perpetual Conservation Easement from C. William Welch on his 14.25-acre property in Middletown, which is strategically located next to other conserved properties within ALT’s Sakonnet Greenway.

JANUARY 2012
• Signed a Conservation Collaboration Agreement with the Paul W. Crowley East Bay Campus of the Met School (“East Bay Met”), under which the entire school became members of ALT.
• Together with the Belden family, successfully removed the last remaining above-ground overhead utility poles and lines along Ocean Drive in Newport as part of the Newport Conservation Initiative.
• Launched our newly redesigned website.

FEBRUARY 2012
• Acquired a perpetual Conservation Easement from the City of Newport on the Coggeshall School property.
• Conducted ALT’s 21st Annual Meeting to a sold-out crowd at the Atlantic Beach Club in Middletown.
• Submitted a proposal to conserve and enhance the Glen to the Town’s Elmhurst Planning Committee.

APRIL 2012
• In collaboration with newportFILM, as part of ALT’s Conservation Speaker Series, presented a screening of “Last Call at the Oasis”, a documentary that establishes the urgency of the global water crisis as the central issue facing our world this century.
• Conducted a joint Earth Day cleanup with East Bay Met staff and students in Miantonomi Park.
• Sent Conserved Lands Map to all Aquidneck Island residents.
• Designed and installed new signs on protected properties.

MAY 2012
• Awarded 14 grants, totaling $7,250 to local conservation projects through ALT’s Merritt Neighborhood Fund. Grant awards will be used to expand community gardens that provide food to local shelters, for pocket park creation, community clean up projects, and for wildlife education.
• Stewardship Director Sophia DeMaio presented a Land Matters Walk & Talk tour through Morton Park’s urban arboretum, discussing some of the interesting trees that have shaded the park through its history.
• Granted DEM wetlands permit for construction of the new 5-mile section of the Sakonnet Greenway Trail.
• Conducted a Conservation Circle Trolley Tour of ALT conserved properties.
• Hosted the Annual Landowner Appreciation Party for landowners of ALT conserved lands.

JUNE 2012
• Stewardship Director Sophia DeMaio led a Land Matters Walk & Talk tour of the new 5-mile loop section of the Sakonnet Greenway Trail and a Walk & Talk of the Oakland Forest and Meadow Trail.
• Conducted a Conservation Circle Trolley Tour of ALT conserved properties.
• Hosted the Annual ALT Trustees and Advisors Meeting.

JULY 2012
• Successfully completed the fundraising for the Campaign to Save the Saint Mary’s Church land.
• Hosted our 10th Annual Golf Tournament at Newport National Golf Club.
• Hosted Fiesta Verde 2012: Plant the Seed in the Saint Mary’s Church meadow in Portsmouth.

AUGUST 2012
• Offered a free presentation about ALT’s 2012 Aquidneck Island’s Conserved Lands Mapping Project to the community.
• Offered a Conservation Circle Trolley Tour of ALT conserved properties.

SEPTEMBER 2012
• Acquired a perpetual Conservation Easement from the Corey and Sears families on 28.69 acres of the strategic Corey/Sears Farm, located next to other previously conserved lands and the Maidford River in Middletown.
• Offered a Conservation Circle Trolley Tour of ALT conserved properties.
Founded in 1990, the Land Trust’s first conservation easement was placed on the historic Slocum estate on Bellevue Avenue. Since that time the Land Trust has conserved over 2,000 acres with many landowners. We gratefully thank these very special individuals, families, businesses, neighborhood associations, municipalities, and other government agencies who have partnered with us to preserve and steward their land in perpetuity. Their vision for the future, and appreciation of the past, leave a legacy for all to enjoy.

LANDOWNER PARTNERS | 2012

Anonymous
Anonymous
Friends of Almy Pond
Mr. and Mrs. Daniel J. Alvarnas
Edythe Anthony
Murali Anthony
Armory Revival Company
Manuel J. Borges
Mrs. Jean I. Braman
Carolann Brown
Cory Brown & Bill Welch
James F. Carlin
James Chadwick
City of Newport
Clubhouse Partners, LP
Covey/Sears Farm
Densy and Margery Cousins
Henry and Andrea Crump
Crystal Spring Water Company, The Scott Family
The Dey Family
The Dick Family
Joe and Kristal Dockery
Jan and Michelle Eckhart, Sweet Berry Farm
The Elshant Family
Joe and Kristal Dockery
Ann and John Lacerda
Artemis Partners
Crystal Spring Water Company
Diana Harrison
Mr. and Mrs. F. James Hodges, Jr.
The Kempenaar Family
Joe Lacerda, Jr.
Marcella McCormack
Delaware Country Club
Daniel J. Alvarnas
Edythe Anthony
Friends of Almy Pond
Muriel Anthony
Armory Revival Company
Manuel J. Borges
Mrs. Jean I. Braman
Carolann Brown
Cory Brown & Bill Welch
James F. Carlin
James Chadwick
City of Newport
Clubhouse Partners, LP
Covey/Sears Farm
Densy and Margery Cousins
Henry and Andrea Crump
Crystal Spring Water Company, The Scott Family
The Dey Family
The Dick Family
Joe and Kristal Dockery
Jan and Michelle Eckhart, Sweet Berry Farm
The Elshant Family
Louis Escobar
Roberta Faria
Farmlands, LLC
Farmscapes Holdings, LLC
Greenscape, LLC
Green Valley Country Club, Inc.
Mrs. Samuel M.V. Hamilton
Diana Harrison
Mr. and Mrs. F. James Hodges, Jr.
The Kempenaar Family
Joe Lacerda, Jr.
Marcella McCormack
Town of Middletown
Middletown Main, LLC
Middletown Open Space and Fields Committees
Katherine M. Murphy
The Nature Conservancy
Newport Country Club
Newport National Golf Club/Realty Financial Partners
John and Paul Nunes, Newport Vineyards & Winery
Newport Water Department
Norman Bird Sanctuary
Larry and Mary Nunes, Anna Flaherty and Edna North
Peter Olaynack
Dana and Helene O’Neill
Bill and Barbara O’Reilly, Bally Machree Farm, LLC
The Peckham Family
The Pennfield School
The Perry Family Partnership
Manuel Peters, George Peters and Marie Ney
Town of Portsmouth
The Preservation Society of Newport County
RI Agricultural Land Preservation Commission
RI Department of Environmental Management
RI Water Resources Board
Carol Rodrigues and Nancy Classby
Salve Regina University
The Silva Family
Mrs. John J. Slocum
John J. Slocum
F.M. Sullivan
Sweet Flag Partners
George Thurston
David R. Tobin
US Dept. of Agriculture’s Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)
Valley Associates II
van Beuren Family
Katherine and Michael Waters
Mr. and Mrs. James Webster
Charles R. Whitehouse
The Wicks Family
AQUIDNECK LAND TRUST FINANCIAL SUMMARY (UNAUDITED)
For the Twelve Months Ended September 30, 2012

PUBLIC SUPPORT & REVENUE
Grant $3,777,500
Donations and Appeals 160,374
Membership Dues 81,954
Special Events, net of direct benefit costs 93,365
Investment income 218,688
Subtotal $3,941,481
Net Assets released from restrictions: Satisfaction of program restrictions $1,138,785
TOTAL PUBLIC SUPPORT & REVENUE $2,070,216

EXPENSES
Program Services:  Land Acquisition and Stewardship Conservation Easements Membership and Education 453,664 775,000 131,842 Total Program Services $1,330,406
Support Services:  Management and General Operations Fundraising Total Support Services $402,392
TOTAL EXPENSES $1,732,798

CHANGES IN UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS:

Total changes in temporarily restricted net assets: Investment income $280,079
Unappropriated earnings on permanently restricted net assets $38,227
Investment income $280,079
TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED NET ASSETS:

TOTAL PUBLIC SUPPORT & REVENUE $2,070,216

PHILANTHROPIC SUPPORT | FISCAL YEAR 2012

The Board of Trustees is deeply grateful to the hundreds of individuals, families, businesses, organizations, foundations, government entities, and landowners who generously support our work each year. The Aquidneck Land Trust strives to offer creative, flexible, respectful and convenient methods to enlist lasting philanthropic support. Membership dues, targeted appeals and campaigns, special events, planned gifts and bequests, in-kind goods and services, and donations of land and conservation easements all enable those who treasure Aquidneck Island to participate in the work of ALT. Our heartfelt thanks to all those who contributed to the Aquidneck Land Trust during this fiscal year, which concluded on September 30, 2012.

 ALT ANNUAL REPORT 2012
12

ALT ANNUAL REPORT 2012
13
GREEN ISLAND SOCIETY:
The Green Island Society is a group of ALT supporters who have made the preservation of our Island a part of their legacy through a bequest and/or other planned giving vehicle.
For more information, contact ALT’s Development Director.

IN MEMORY OF:
Ted Eckhart
June Gibbs
Bruce Howe
Anne Toll
Kathryn Ujifusa
Robert Wiggins

IN HONOR OF:
The Booth Family
The Cecchi Family
Johna Chewning
Kristin Emory & Jamie Schapiro
Steven & Sandy Parks
Aggie & Tom Perkins

If your name is listed incorrectly or has been omitted, please notify the Land Trust’s Development Office and accept our sincere apologies.

AQUIDNECK LAND TRUST BOARDS & STAFF

STAFF
Charles R. Allott
Interim Executive Director
David A. Thalmann
Director of Finance & Administration
Sophia DeMaio
Stewardship Director
Jessica Pohl
Development Director
Courtney Hath
Assistant Development Director
Diana Britton
Office Manager

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
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Newport, Rhode Island
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Portsmouth, Rhode Island
SECRETARY
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North Kingstown, Rhode Island
Richard T. Wicks
Portsmouth, Rhode Island

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Portsmouth, Rhode Island
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Richard Bauchspies, Jr., CFA
Portsmouth, Rhode Island
Secretary
Jameson Chace, Ph.D.
North Kingstown, Rhode Island
Richard T. Wicks
Portsmouth, Rhode Island

These annotated lists reflect the composition of the Board of Trustees and Board of Advisors and their places of local residence as of December 31, 2012.
The Board of Trustees thanks retiring Board Members for their continuing dedication and support.
OUR MISSION

“Preserving the Island’s open spaces and natural character for the lasting benefit of our community.”

OUR VALUES

The Aquidneck Land Trust believes that we must take a holistic approach to land conservation if we are to help our island community achieve a sustainable future. Therefore, ALT works to protect a number of natural resource types that we depend upon as a species (wildlife habitat, agricultural land, water resource areas, outdoor recreational space, scenic vistas, etc.). In this work, ALT is guided by its values: Integrity; Environmental Consciousness; Embracing Community as a Partner; Respect and Stewardship of the Land; and Volunteerism. ALT was founded as a 501 (c)(3) not-for-profit organization in 1990.

The Aquidneck Land Trust preserves the Island’s open spaces and natural character for the lasting benefit of our community.