

# BOURNE CONSERVATION TRUST



## On the Farm *(See page 8)*

FALL/WINTER 2018

Number 52

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# THE CHALLENGE IS ON, AND SO FAR, VERY GOOD!

Earlier this year, the BCT notified all our donors and supporters of an amazing opportunity we have to build our endowment, thanks to a very generous and long-term supporter:

## The BCT Matching Gift Challenge:

In 2018, if we raise \$250,000, it's matched, dollar for dollar

In 2019, if we raise \$250,000, it's matched, dollar for dollar

In 2020, if we raise \$250,000, it's matched, dollar for dollar

} that's \$1,500,000!

Why is this so important? The BCT is caretaker of more than 270 acres of land in Bourne. It owns and maintains the Cataumet Depot, in the heart of Cataumet Village, and Spring Hill Farm located on County Road. It is always vigilant when new properties become available that would enhance our greenways.

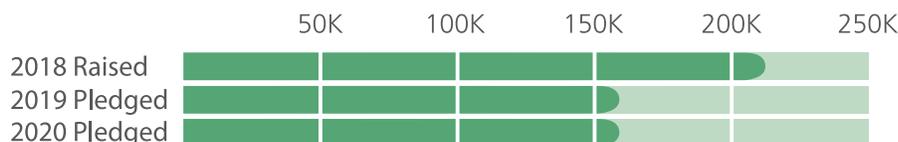
The BCT also maintains more than 10 miles of walking trails through woods and along local shores and cares for a trio of goats located on the farm for all to enjoy. The BCT protects our natural resources, preserves open space and natural habitats for our wildlife, and protects us all from unwanted development.

None of this comes without cost, and as we all know, costs are rising. The BCT needs funds on hand to act fast on new acquisitions or to cover unexpected expenses such as those incurred as a result of the big storms last March. And we have recurring costs to maintain our trails, buildings and the farm, and to cover necessary accounting and legal fees. (Look inside to see a summary of some of the expenses we have incurred this year.)

This Matching Gift Challenge gives us the chance to build our endowment and helps ensure our long-term success.

We are on our way, thanks to you, our supporters! For 2018, we have raised \$220,000, just \$30,000 more and we'll get the \$250,000 match. And if we raise more than \$30,000, it will roll over to help us meet next year's challenge. Individual contributions have ranged from \$10 to \$100,000, and every dollar is most appreciated. If you have not yet contributed, or are able to donate a little more, please consider it before the end of this year.

**More good news:** For both 2019 and 2020, we have \$159,000 already pledged.



**Please note:** In early 2019, the BCT will send out a complete list of all of those who contributed in 2018. As always, we send big thanks to all of you who donated your time and/or money to the BCT and who are supporting our efforts to meet this Matching Gift Challenge.



*Little Bay sunset from Monk's Park.*

# OUT ON THE TRAILS

## Report from the Trail Meisters

*Dick Boyden*

The snow storms and high winds of last March seem like a distant memory as we on the Cape and elsewhere have endured the “muggies” with

trail around a mass of multiple tree blow downs on the trail and fixed that problem. Chain saw kudos also go to Paul Rossi at Bourne Sisters. Thanks to the trail scouting of Carl Wirsen and his marked up map, Paul cleared a record number of 21 blow

venture forth if and when Mother Nature sends monster winds and snow this coming winter.

Many thanks to all Trail Trimmers and Meisters who faithfully walk and monitor their respective trails, and cut, clear and pick up debris



*Joe Hurley*



*George Gillis*



*Dick Murphy*



*Rick Rheinhardt*

record breaking heat this summer. But those series of storms last March sent our Trail Trimmers out to pick up branches on the trails and to report blow downs of trees and large branches. Then, all of the Trail Meisters headed out with their chain saws in hand to clear the BCT trailed properties: John Woodley to Little Bay and Monks Park; Joe Hurley to Aptuxcet; Ron Boucher to Red Brook; Carl Wirsen and Paul Rossi to Bourne Sisters; and Bill Dibella, John Holden, Richard Murphy, George Gillis and Jay Fisher to the Cataumet Greenway trails.

Rarely do we encounter blow downs across trails that cannot be quickly cleared, but George Gillis met a monster mess behind his house in Cataumet. George cleared a nifty and timely 100-foot side

downs across the varied Bourne Sisters trails.

It has been a kinder summer weather wise as far as trail maintenance tasks are concerned. But you can be sure that the BCT Trail Trimmers and Meisters are ready to

*George Gillis*



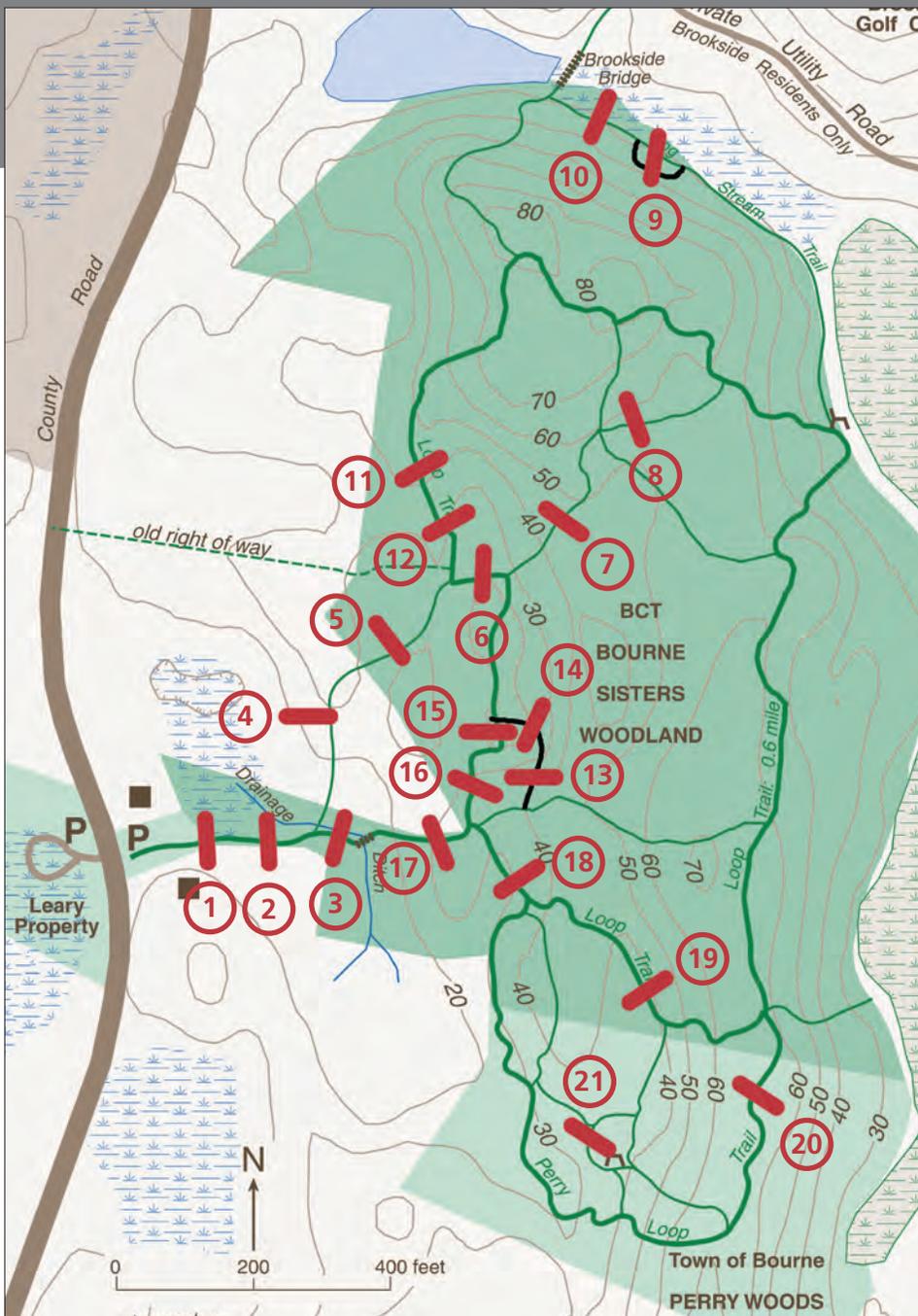
they find along the way. And thanks to all walkers who support their efforts by picking up trash, twigs and branches, doing side trimming and reporting fallen branches or tree blow downs via email or telephone to the BCT headquarters.

## Want to Be a BCT Trail Meister?

Email the BCT ([bct.trails@gmail.com](mailto:bct.trails@gmail.com)) or call 508-563-2884.

## New to Town or the Trails?

Why not review (and print) the BCT trail maps, available online at [www.bourneconservationtrust.org](http://www.bourneconservationtrust.org). Trail Guides are available at Ballentine's Boat Shop, Parker's Boat Yard, Kingman Marine, Bourne Public Library and Bourne Town Hall. Then make a pledge to walk along as many trails as you can.



This map of the Bourne Sisters (based on map marked up by Carl Wirsén), is just one of the trail maps marked with downed trees from the storms of last March. Below are two photos that demonstrate the type of damage sustained throughout Bourne.

### Maintaining Our Properties

As anyone who owns or rents a home knows, there is always something to do...to repair, maintain, enhance or add. It's no different for the BCT. Just this year, here are some of the projects we have undertaken:

- ▶ Upgrades to the Cataumet Depot, including a remodeled bathroom, new storage cabinet, new hot water heater and new interior paint
- ▶ New roof at Spring Hill Farm barn
- ▶ Professional cleanup from the huge spring storms for the damage too big for volunteers to handle
- ▶ Fixing the drainage problem, repairing the stone wall, leveling and wildflower seeding on the Shultz Family lot at the corner of County Road and the Scraggy Neck Road Ext.

It's been an expensive year.



Cataumet Greenway giant blow down.

# EVENTS

## 2018 Winter Fun Run

For 38 years, the Cape Cod Road Runners have sent out an open invitation to runners of all ages to join in a 4.9 mile run, followed by a social get-together, awards ceremony, raffle and refreshments, including a cash bar. Every year, the race has been held as scheduled, "rain, snow or shine," with one exception: in 2017 the race was postponed due to 14 inches of snow.

Start time is 10:30 am—rain, light snow or shine. The fee is \$16 for pre-registration; \$20 if you register on race day, by 10:00 am. All proceeds from the 2018 run have been donated to the BCT to help in its efforts to purchase land for conservation and recreation. The BCT sends huge thanks to the Weary Travelers Club and Cape Cod Road Runners for their past support.

**Note:** For a complete list of 2018 runners and times, go to [www.capecodroadrunners.com](http://www.capecodroadrunners.com).



On race day this year it was extremely cold, but 48 runners gathered at the starting line and headed off. The winner was Dustin Baker of Kingston MA, with a time of 25:53.5. Kudos to Henry Gartner, age 12, who came in 8th with a time of 30:08.2.

There are awards for the top three finishers in each age group, for both men and women: junior, open, submaster, master, senior, super senior and age 70+. The reward for participating: clam fritters, seafood chowder, water, plus a pair of cotton running gloves. The race starts and ends at the Weary Travelers Club, 77 Valley Bars Rd., Monument Beach.

## Grace Talks BCT

Last May, Grace Rowe, BCT Trustee and Treasurer, gave a presentation on the History of the Bourne Conservation Trust to the Bourne United Methodist Women, a group that meets monthly at the church for fellowship, friendship and community outreach. Over the course of the meeting, this wonderful group sang beautifully for Grace and also shared some of the history of their church and congregation. On February 13, 2019, Grace will be speaking to the Aptuxet Garden Club, also at the

Bourne Methodist Church, and also on the history and mission of the BCT.



## Easter Egg Hunt at Spring Hill Farm

Due to the cold and rainy spring this year, the annual Easter Egg Hunt at Spring Hill Farm was postponed a week, but it was worth the wait. On March 31, under sunny skies, children of all ages turned out to spend time with, even hug, the Easter Bunny, hunt for candy, hidden treasures and the special golden eggs, and visit with the resident goats and horses.

This hunt is a cherished tradition sponsored each year by the Cataumet Civic Associates, with help and support from the BCT and the Cataumet Methodist Church.

## BCT Christmas Tree Sale

There is a very special feeling when a family walks together across fields to choose and cut its very own fresh Christmas tree. BCT members and friends once again had this opportunity last December on the Dimmick

property in Cataumet. This has been an annual event sponsored by the Dimmick family...the cost of each tree is a donation to the BCT. Last year, the tree sale was a huge success, with \$1,192 raised to support the BCT. Thank you Dimmick family!

Due to this success and the number of trees sold, the trees now planted on the property need an extra year to grow. Thus, there will not be a Christmas tree sale this December...but in 2019 we should have trees of all sorts and sizes for families to choose from. Look for the dates of the sale next fall.

### WAGLER & FRIENDS

The BCT welcomes all dogs and their people to our properties. Part of the joy of our trails is seeing the excitement of our canine pals as they join us on nature walks. But with this comes some simple requests to the human companions of our family pets. Please make sure your dog is under control at all times, respect private property, don't let your dog "shake" or jump on other walkers, and pick up and take all its "business" from the trails and most especially from the shores (dog feces is a huge pollutant of our harbors). And finally, thank you for being considerate of other walkers and respectful of BCT properties.



## NEWS & NOTES



### SMILE: Shop on Amazon and Support the BCT

The BCT is now registered on Amazon under its SMILE program. SMILE is a simple and automatic way to support the BCT every time you shop, at no cost to you. Once you register and hopefully choose the BCT as your favorite charitable organization, the shopping is the same. What's different: Amazon

contributes a portion of your purchase price of most items to the BCT. You can log on to [www.smile.amazon.com](http://www.smile.amazon.com) to learn more and to sign up for SMILE.

### And the Winner Is...

The BCT was recently awarded the Ansel B. Chaplin Award by the Compact of Cape Cod Conservation Trusts, Inc. This award honors the individual or group that has demonstrated inspirational excellence in the protection of open space on Cape Cod. We are especially



honored and grateful for this special recognition. For information on the Compact of Cape Cod Conservation Trusts and this award, log on to <http://thecompact.net/ansel-b-chaplin-award/>.

## On the Farm

**The Fence:** Thanks to the support of many donors, we have completed about 30% of the new split rail fence at Spring Hill Farm. There is more fence to be built. A \$100 donation will buy a section of fence, which can then be dedicated in memory of, or in honor or celebration of, a pet, family member, friend or whatever or whoever has special meaning for you. The plaque is included in the \$100 donation. To reserve your section, go to [www.bourneconservation-trust.org](http://www.bourneconservation-trust.org). There is a link on the home page to the donation form. Simply fill out the form, print it and mail it along with your check to the

BCT, PO Box 203, Cataumet, MA 02534. The BCT wants to thank you in advance for your help completing and installing this fence.

P.S. When you stop by the farm, walk along the fence and read the plaques, and then be sure to say hi to the resident goats and any horses living on the farm. This farm is available for all to enjoy.

**On a sad note:** In September, Mrs. M, one of the Nigerian Dwarf goats living on the farm, passed away



from cancer. She is sorely missed and survived by her daughter Buttercup.

**Happier news:** Buttercup is now joined by two new baby goats, also



Nigerian Dwarf goats, born at Coonamessett Farm on July 8. They are named Ruffnut and Tuffnut, Ruff and Tuff for short. They are really cute, very entertaining and ready for people visits. Treats are not encouraged, but if you can't resist, please feed small amounts and appropriate treats: raisins, pieces of fruit or vegetables or an occasional cracker or cookie. Please drop by to say hi to the newest members of the BCT family. (Ruff is the one with the large tan spot on his back.)



## Let's Keep Track

In our last newsletter, we asked our readers to let us know of all the wildlife you come across in your travels through Bourne. Here are some of the sightings that you have reported back to us (and a couple of pictures too).

**Birds:** Blue jay, bufflehead, cardinal, chickadee, bald eagle, goldfinch, house finch, red tail hawk, shinned hawk, great blue heron, mallards, mourning doves, nuthatch, osprey, song sparrow, tufted titmouse, wild turkey, red-headed woodpecker, Canada goose, swan, red wing blackbirds

**Other wildlife:** Coyote, fox, mouse, chipmunk, opossum, raccoon, skunk, rabbit, winter moth, black and grey squirrel, deer, ants (yes ants).

# STAY IN TOUCH

We urge our readers to visit the website: [www.bourneconservationtrust.org](http://www.bourneconservationtrust.org), to learn more about our history, mission, properties, trails, events and the many ways you can support the BCT. You could also “like us” on Facebook.

As you navigate through the website, look for pictures contributed by numerous gifted photographers, particularly pictures of local wildlife. Then, as you wander along our trails, enjoying the quiet, peaceful serenity and never-ending wonders of nature, take your own picture of any wildlife or wonder of nature you come across, and share it with us at [photos4BCT@gmail.com](mailto:photos4BCT@gmail.com). We'll try and include it on our website or in future mailings to donors.

## Help Wanted

The Trust is always looking for help. You may volunteer at Spring Hill Farm to help maintain the grounds and care for the animals. You might prefer to support the Trail Meisters out on the trails. There are also needs for help at the office. Please pitch in any way you can. If you are interested in volunteering, contact the BCT at 508-563-2884 or [bct.trails@gmail.com](mailto:bct.trails@gmail.com).

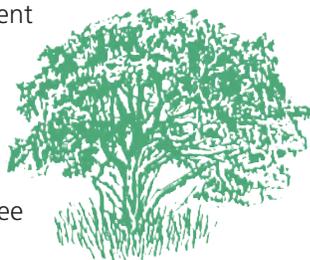
## Reminders:

- ▶ Send us your wildlife sightings, including any photo you can snap.
- ▶ Submit your child's artwork to the Kahlin's Korner Art Contest.
- ▶ Think about donating a section of fence for Spring Hill Farm.
- ▶ Support the Trail Meisters out on the trails.
- ▶ Support the BCT! Help us meet our fundraising Matching Gift Challenge! Remember, every dollar you donate will be doubled, up to \$250,000 for this and the next two years. We will recognize all donations in our annual Donor List, including those made: in memory of; in honor of; or in celebration of (perhaps a birthday, wedding, anniversary, birth, grandchild, graduation, retirement, pet, Christmas, Ground Hog Day... whatever brings happiness to your life).



## Board of Directors

Stephen Ballentine, President  
Grace Rowe, Treasurer  
Robert Birch, Trustee  
Dick Boyden, Trustee  
Tom Corcoran, Trustee  
Philip DeNormandie, Trustee  
Bill Dibella, Trustee



*The BCT is a private nonprofit land trust with a primary objective of acquiring land and leaving it in its natural state to: protect habitats, provide groundwater recharge, preserve rural ambiance and make it available for recreational and educational purposes. The BCT owns and maintains more than 270 acres of open space. Miles of walking trails thread their way through these protected woods and waterfront areas. The BCT is always looking for volunteers and donors to help achieve its mission and both maintain and enhance its properties. Learn more at [www.bourneconservationtrust.org](http://www.bourneconservationtrust.org).*

# Kahlin's Korner

*Kahlin's Korner is dedicated to the memory of Kahlin Jespersen, a child full of sunshine and a love of nature, and also to all children for whom we preserve a part of the natural world. Kahlin loved to draw. How about your kids?*



2018's first-place winner, Maya Kapuchinski, age 11



2018's fourth-place winner, Izzy Bayus, age 9

## Third Annual Children's Art Contest: "What You Love in Nature"

For this year's contest, we hope you will have fun finding an animal or its habitat to draw, maybe a flower, plant or bug. How about a mushroom, sea gull, hermit crab or pine tree? Anything you find out of doors that intrigues you, touches your heart or makes you smile.

The artists (age 12 and under) can create their own drawing, painting, or photo (any medium is accepted).

### How to Enter

Entries should be done or mounted on 8 ½" by 11" paper.

Please be sure the masterpiece is signed and dated.



Include a brief description of the work along with the artist's age and contact information.



Mail it:

Box 203, Cataumet, MA 02534  
or drop off at:

Ballentine's Boat Shop, 1104 Route 28A, Cataumet



Deadline: January 31, 2019

There will be two judges. First, second and third-place winners in varying age groups will receive \$25, \$15 and \$10 respectively. Winners will be announced in the BCT Donor List sent out early in 2019.

Shown are two winners from the 2018 art contest, "All Creatures Great and Small".

# GIVE TO THE BCT!

## Your Ongoing Financial Support Is Key to Our Success

Donations large and small help maintain the BCT's 501(c)(3) status and grow our general fund. This fund enables the BCT to act quickly on new property purchases and the general maintenance of all properties. It is also used to hire professional help when needed. These costs can be significant.

Our fundraising efforts are based on a soft-sell approach, with this newsletter the most important tool. Donations of any dollar amount are important, because the number of donors shows foundations and large donors the degree of local support and helps us to retain our status as an IRS 501(c)(3) organization. This status allows your donation, within IRS guidelines, to be tax deductible. In other words, please contribute what you can, as often as you can.

## Ways of Giving

- ▶ Cash, check, money order, wire transfer, quick and easy.
- ▶ Name the BCT in your will or as beneficiary of a life insurance policy.
- ▶ Give appreciated securities.
- ▶ Contact your bank or financial institution to automatically send a monthly donation to the BCT from a checking or savings account.
- ▶ Give the gift of real estate (or sell it to the BCT for less than its fair market value; the difference is considered a charitable gift). Note: A gift of land is a win-win for donors, the BCT and residents of Bourne. Such gifts provide tax advantages and help preserve the scenic character of our area, maintain air quality and provide a natural habitat for local wildlife.
- ▶ Offer a matching gift to support our efforts to purchase property. People respond generously when they know their gift will be doubled.

Contact the BCT office at 508-563-2884 or log on to [www.bourneconservationtrust.org](http://www.bourneconservationtrust.org) for more information or for answers to your questions.

## It Works

The BCT approach to fundraising works because our preserved woodlands, shore frontages, marshes and walking trails speak for themselves, and because we are surrounded and supported by people who understand the value and importance of open space, know what our Town might be like without it, and understand that it is everyone's responsibility to protect and maintain it.

### **IMPORTANT:**

*Donors to the BCT, including memorial donations, will be listed early next year (2019), in the 2018 Donors Report.*

*The Bourne Conservation Trust is tax exempt from federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Within IRS guidelines, contributions and gifts may be tax deductible from your taxable income. The Trust's tax identification number (TIN) is 04-2767827. Please consult your tax advisor for more information.*

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**Contact Information:**

508-563-2884

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

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[info@bourneconservationtrust.org](mailto:info@bourneconservationtrust.org)

[photos4BCT@gmail.com](mailto:photos4BCT@gmail.com)



**Treat Meisters**

*BCT office volunteers, paying rapt attention  
(mostly) at one of our morning meetings.*