



CONSERVING LONG ISLAND'S WORKING FARMS, NATURAL LANDS, AND HERITAGE FOR OUR COMMUNITIES NOW AND IN THE FUTURE.

ISSUE NO. 4

The Latest News from the Peconic Land Trust

SUMMER 2017

Preserve Spotlights

Shellfisher Preserve, Southold

Donated to the Peconic Land Trust in 1996 by the Plock Family, Shellfisher Preserve is a fully operational mariculture facility that is contributing to our enjoyment and health in so many ways—the revitalized shellfish operation not only provides us with oysters, clams and scallops for the local market, but it also grows and distributes shellfish through seed programs that improve the water quality of Southold Bay and beyond.

John Plock founded the Shelter Island Oyster Company on the site in 1935, but due to personal circumstances, the maricultural facility was shut down in the late 1970s. In the early 1990s, the Plock family came to the Trust, and working with John v.H. Halsey and Tim Caufield created a limited development plan for their 21.8-acre parcel—permanently protecting 14 of those acres in 1992.

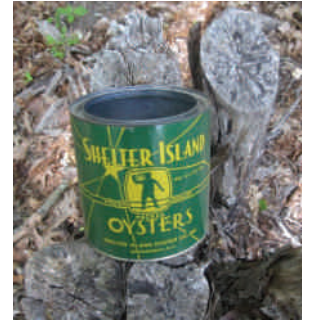
Four years later, the Plocks donated the protected land to the Trust. In 2007, working with Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE) of Suffolk County's marine program, and a grant from the National Grid Foundation and the United States Department of Agriculture, the Trust restored the shellfish facility. Shellfisher Preserve is now managed by CCE and the Trust—and is leased



to a cooperative of shellfish farmers, Noank Aquaculture Cooperative, who are growing oysters, hard clams and bay scallops.

We thank the Plock Family for seeking out a conservation plan for their land and helping to keep alive the tradition of shellfish farming on Long Island.

We are also grateful for the support of CCE, National Grid, the USDA, and Noank in the preservation and on-going management of the preserve!



Next time you are out and about, and see PECONIC PEARLS on the menu, considering ordering a dozen. Peconic Pearls are sold with a 5 cents premium, which is donated to the Trust in support of water quality projects.

Visit our website: peconiclandtrust.org/shellfisher_preserve for some great links to articles and videos featuring Shellfisher Preserve, including a fantastic article in the 2014 *The Shelter Island Reporter* featuring Bill Plock sharing memories of his dad and grandfather and growing up around the Shelter Island Oyster Company; and a video link to Alec Hirshfeld's documentary, *Out Here in the Fields*, on the restoration of the preserve.

Shellfisher Preserve was also featured on the Land Trust Alliance's "Conservation in a Changing Climate" website, — check it out by visiting climatechange.lta.org/case-study/shellfisher-preserve.

Have questions? Interested in organizing a group visit? Contact Pam Greene, Senior Vice President, at 631.283.3195 or at PGreene@PeconicLandTrust.org

Making Memories at Peconinic 2017



Berglund & Lesster Preserves North Sea, Southampton

The North Sea area of Southampton is a nature lovers paradise, with over 1,000 acres in preservation, including trails along the Paumanok Path. Hikers and paddlers have miles of terrain to explore, including two Trust nature preserves: Berglund and Lesster.

The 40+ acre Berglund Preserve along West Neck Creek was donated to the Trust in 1993 by Nils Berglund. As often happens, the estate tax burden on the property was significant and the family was concerned that the woodlands and wetlands that provided important habitat for wildlife would be lost.



Donating the land to the Trust helped with both the future estate tax issues, as well as protected the land from residential development, forever. A few years later, the Trust purchased the adjacent five acres from Elizabeth Lesster through a bargain sale at a nominal value. Mrs. Lesster also wanted to see her property conserved along with the bountiful woodlands and wetlands along Little Sebonac Creek.



In 2012, the family of Logan James Kirby donated a bench within the preserve in his memory — as a place to sit quietly and enjoy nature.

The woodland and wetland preserve areas are abundant with an array of flora and fauna, including native grasses, such as smooth (*Spartina alterniflora*) and saltmeadow (*Spartina patens*) cordgrasses, a variety of flowers (*Swamp azalea*, *Marsh mallow*, and *seaside goldenrod*) and forest trees, predominately American beech, although there are some pitch pines as well.

The preserve is also a haven for many species of owl including Great Horned, Barn and Eastern Screech, along with a wide variety of other birds, mammals and reptiles.

The preserve can be accessed through the hiking trails within the Town's Wolf Swamp Sanctuary, just to the north of the Paumanok Path trails — and you can get a great waterside view into the preserve by kayaking or canoeing West Neck Creek (*added treat: it leads into Scallop Pond*).

We thank the Berglund and Lesster families for choosing conservation!

The Berglund Preserve was used by local hunters long before it was donated to the Trust. In keeping with this tradition, it is leased to the North Sea Gun Club and the Island Creek Hunting Club in the fall and winter as part of the Trust's Wildlife Management Program.

Want to learn more about the conservation story and the diverse ecosystem of the preserves? Contact Matt Swain, Senior Stewardship Manager at 631.283.3195 or MSwain@PeconicLandTrust.org



Donor Spotlight

John and Candice Frawley: Making a Difference, *in their own words*

“Since purchasing our home in Sagaponack in late 1987, we have enjoyed the natural beauty and benefits of the beaches, open land, working farms, and farm stands throughout the East End. Who doesn’t look forward to the first asparagus and strawberries of the season?”

“We became uniquely aware of the Peconic Land Trust’s initiatives when it was successful in preserving a working farm that is now owned by Jim and Jennifer Pike in Sagaponack. Since becoming more involved with the Trust, I have learned that it has been successful in the preservation of over 12,000 acres in eastern Long Island. Can you imagine if all that open space and working farms were now covered by homes? And there is much more to preserve!!!

“Candice and I view the Trust as truly a charity that *makes a difference* and have included it in our estate

planning and have increased our annual donation. As a tax effective way to provide annual donations, we use a *Donor Advised Fund* which is funded by a tax deductible contribution of appreciated securities.

“We commend John v.H. Halsey and the entire staff of the Peconic Land Trust for their incredible efforts and success to preserve open spaces and farm land for our and future generations.”



Conservation News

Eastport Family Protects Farmland for the Future

We have exciting news to share from Eastport! On May 4, the Peconic Land Trust acquired 13.6 acres of farmland and woodlands from the Mary G. Raynor Dibble Irrevocable Trust — including 9.4 acres of farmland that will be returned to active agricultural production this spring! The property is located between North Bay and Tuttle Avenues in the hamlet.

Etta and her son Louis Tuttle are Trustees of the Mary G. Raynor Dibble Irrevocable Trust. In 2013, Etta came to the Trust to explore a conservation option for the family’s property, which includes prime agricultural soil and had been in the Raynor family, and historically farmed, for many generations. Working with the Town of Southampton, the Trust has acquired the land, with the Town of Southampton purchasing the development rights on all the land, including an enhanced easement for food production on the farmland. This is the first time farmland west of the Shinnecock Canal has been protected for food using this new tool!



The Trust entered into a lease this summer with a local farmer who is planting a cover crop to improve the soil. Later this year, we will issue a Request for Proposals for Qualified Farmers to purchase the property.

Want to learn more about this conservation story? Contact Senior Project Manager Kim Quarty at 631.283.3195 or KQuarty@PeconicLandTrust.org

Our thanks to Etta and Louis for choosing conservation as the late Mary Raynor Dibble would have wanted. We look forward to seeing this land back in agriculture!

Water Mill Land Reconnected to Farming by Ann LaWall and Kraszewski Family!



We are so pleased to announce the protection of land that has been reconnected to agriculture as you enter Water Mill! A situation that was once tragic has turned to a positive for farmland conservation. Ann LaWall lost her home to fire in 2016. Instead of rebuilding, Ann decided to reconnect her land to agriculture. The property, just under an acre at the western tip of Seven Ponds Road, has now been protected forever for food crops. We thank Ann and her family for having the vision to see a conservation future for their land.

The Trust purchased the property from Ann on April 19th, simultaneously selling the development rights to the Town of Southampton. In early June, the Trust completed the reconnection, selling the now protected farmland to farmers, and brothers, Tim and Hank Kraszewski. The land is already back in agricultural production — representing over 27 acres of contiguous farmland.

“From what was a tragedy has sprouted hope for the future,” said Ann LaWall. “I am very pleased to have been able to work with the Trust and the Town to see the permanent protection of my property and to see it reunited with the neighboring farmland.”

We thank the Town of Southampton for joining us on this conservation effort. Since 2015, the Town has committed not only to protecting farmland— which it has done for decades — but now additionally

protecting farmland for food. Starting with the Danilevsky project on Head of Pond Road, the Town has conserved over 200 acres with this new

protection tool that conserves not only the resource, but makes farmland affordable and accessible to farmers who grow food crops.*

Thank you to Ann LaWall for choosing a conservation option for her land! We wish the Kraszewskis much success in their farming operations. The beautiful view of farmland from the corner of David Whites Lane and Seven Ponds Road/Flying Point Road is spectacular.



*In 2010, the Peconic Land Trust pioneered an enhanced restriction tool that was used by the Town of Southampton in both Eastport and Water Mill. The Trust used this tool for the first time in the protection of the Pike Farmstand in 2011. Most recently the enhanced restrictions have been applied not only in Southampton, but also in Southold (through a donation by Russ McCall) and in East Hampton (with the recent protection of the Amagansett Farmers Market).

For further details contact Melanie Cirillo, Director of Conservation Planning, at 631.283.3195 or MCirillo@PeconicLandTrust.org

The Gardens are in Full Bloom: Summer and Fall at Bridge Gardens

36 Mitchell Lane, Bridgehampton

A unique public garden, Peconic Land Trust's Bridge Gardens features a wide-variety of plantings including mixed borders, native grasses, roses, shrubs and trees; a community garden; demonstration vegetable garden; and an herb garden featuring culinary, medicinal, ornamental, textile and dye herbs.

A beautiful oasis at which to spend the day, Bridge Gardens also serves as an outdoor classroom, demonstration garden and community resource focused on sustainable living and ecologically sound gardening practices.

**For more information, www.PeconicLandTrust.org/Bridge_Gardens
or call us at 631.283.3195**



While the Peconic Land Trust is busy conserving working farms and natural lands, we also offer fun, family friendly **Connections** programs on conserved lands throughout the East End, including our . . .



Quail Hill Farm | Amagansett
Bridge Gardens | Bridgehampton
Agricultural Center at Charnews Farm | Southold

Join us! PeconicLandTrust.org | 631.283.3195



Farming News

Pierson High School Service Day at Quail Hill Farm



"Last Friday, June 9, we were joined by 42 seniors from Pierson High School in Sag Harbor. Together, we planted celery, celeriac and lettuce; thinned and weeded beets, carrots and parsnips, and tended to our medicinal herb garden. The students had gathered at Quail Hill to work together in honor of their classmate,

George Butts, who passed away last year.

"Upon working with these young folks, I was immediately struck by how close these classmates were to one another: clearly attentive to each other's needs, playful and engaged. One such student was Alex Kamper, who has volunteered his time and become an integral part of the Quail Hill community. During intros, Alex helped us ground ourselves and set intentions for our work by offering some words of reflection he'd written to commemorate George, the spirit of working together and how one's labor can be a tribute.



"It was an honor to share a few hours of the working day with Alex and all of his classmates: their inquisitive minds, eager hands and open hearts seemed right at home under the bright and wide Amagansett skies. We thank you!"

— *Layton Guenther, Farm Manager,
Quail Hill Farm*



To learn more about becoming a part of Quail Hill Farm, visit www.PeconicLandTrust.org/quail_hill_farm or call us at 631.283.3195

Donor Spotlight

Elaine Monroe "Community" Connection

Feeling a part of the East End Community, and contributing to keeping the natural beauty we see all around us, is important to Elaine Monroe.

A friend to the Peconic Land Trust and Quail Hill Farm for many years, Elaine has supported the mission to conserve Long Island's working farms and natural lands through generous in-kind gifts from her fabulous Decorum Antiques in Amagansett and through donations to the Trust.

Last year Elaine's accountant suggested rather than taking the required minimum distribution from her IRA that she make a tax-free gift to a non-profit of her choice. Referred to as a Qualified Charitable Disbursement (QCD), Elaine was able to not only minimize her taxable income, but also support an organization she cared about and help her community.



"Supporting the Peconic Land Trust gives me a greater sense of belonging to this community," said Elaine. "I see my gift to the Trust as a way to help ensure that this gorgeous place will continue to be preserved."

We thank Elaine and all our generous donors for their support of our work and look forward to working with you to protect the land we know and love.

To learn more about qualified charitable disbursements and the many ways you can make a donation to the Trust, visit our website or contact Amanda Abraham, Director of Development, at 631.283.3195 or AAbraham@PeconicLandTrust.org

Peconic Legacy Circle

A Gift for Future Generations

You can leave a legacy by remembering the Peconic Land Trust with a gift from your estate. Your gift will ensure that Long Island's beautiful beaches, clean water, working farms, majestic woodland, and pristine wetlands will be protected for generations to come.

Legacy gifts can take many forms and may be useful for estate planning purposes. To learn more, contact Amanda Abraham, Director of Development at 631.283.3195 or AAbraham@PeconicLandTrust.org

photo courtesy of Jacqueline Osborn



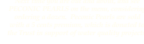
Spring Connections Events 2017



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OUR LATEST CONSERVATION NEWS



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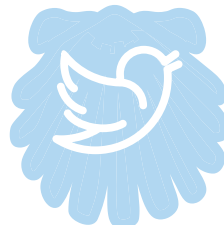
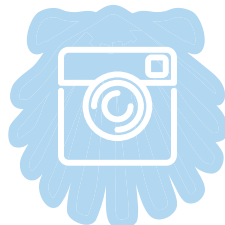
Enclosed are highlights from our eNewsletters from April through June 2017.

Join our email mailing list to receive updates from the Trust each month.

An archive of our eNewsletters can be found by visiting: PeconicLandTrust.org/News

Please help us further reduce our carbon footprint. If you change your address, or would like to receive all (or some) of your communications from the Peconic Land Trust by email, let us know!

Contact Janet Schutt, Donor Services Manager
631.283.3195 ext. 24 or JSchutt@PeconicLandTrust.org.



Follow us...

A copy of the last financial report filed with the New York State Attorney General may be obtained in writing to:
New York State Attorney General's Charities Bureau, Attn: FOIL Officer, 120 Broadway, New York, NY 10271
or Peconic Land Trust, PO Box 1776, Southampton, NY 11969