

Southborough Open Land Foundation

SOLF is awarded grant



Spring 2008

Celebrating our
20th Anniversary
March 31, 2008

Thank you to the
following people
for their help on
various projects:

Dick Chase

Web site

Debbie Costine

Program liaison

Jack Downs

Accountant

Freddie Gillespie

Information

Linda Hubley

Photography

Gordon Morrison

Illustrations & Information

Amanda Watters

Technical advice

**SPECIAL
THANKS TO
FALCONI
BROS. FOR
THEIR
GENEROUS
SUPPORT OF
SOLF OVER
THE YEARS**

2008 began on a very positive note for the Southborough Open Land Foundation when we learned that we had been awarded a grant by the Massachusetts Land Trust Coalition in coordination with the Franklin Land Trust and the Mount Grace Land Trust through the Empowering Local Land Trusts grants program. The purpose of the grant is to help SOLF develop and implement stewardship plans for our sixteen properties, to work with other organizations that share our goals in the town and region, to get our members more involved in projects through outreach such as trail walks and educational programs, and to increase our membership. SOLF is a private, all volunteer organization whose most active members are stretched thin by the amount of time they are donating. The grant will allow SOLF to hire a consultant to help with several of the planned projects, most notably the development of the stewardship plans for the SOLF properties.

SOLF is pleased to announce that Frederica Gillespie will be working with SOLF as a consultant. Freddie is well known in Southborough for her participation in many

community organizations. She was very active in the campaign for the passage of the Community Preservation Act and serves on the Community Preservation Committee. She is a member of the Southborough Open Space Preservation Commission so is familiar with many of the issues that are of concern to SOLF. Freddie also is a co-founder of the Sudbury River Watershed Organization which is dedicated to the importance of maintaining a healthy river ecosystem. SOLF shares that interest in the healthy river system, owning several properties that border the Sudbury River.

SOLF looks forward to working with Freddie to help invigorate our organization and continue to carry on with our goals of caring for the land, which has been entrusted to us, and promoting the acquisition of additional parcels of undeveloped land.

SOLF TO SPONSOR TWO NATURE PROGRAMS

SAVE THE DATES

Southborough Open Land Foundation is pleased to announce two upcoming events that we hope you will plan to attend. In conjunction with SOLF's recent donation to the public library of a pass for Garden in the Woods, we will be presenting a slide show entitled The Super Natural Garden. Garden in the Woods is the home of the New England Wild Flower Society (NEWFS), a 107-year-old organization that is recognized nationally as one of the nation's leading plant conservation organizations. Quoting from the NEWFS's web site, "The founders of New England Wild Flower Society had a compelling vision - a plant conservation society that would protect our native flora. At the beginning of our second century, we are very grateful for the stewardship of our predecessors..... Because of the New England Wild Flower Society, the native plants of New England are better protected and more appreciated than ever before." Southborough residents who wish to visit Garden in the Woods may borrow the pass that SOLF has donated to the library.

The Garden in the Woods program on the topic of a Super Natural Garden will be presented at the Southborough Public Library at 7 PM on Wednesday April 9th.

Garden in the Woods maintains a slide

collection of over 25,000 images of North American flowers. These slides were donated by outstanding nature photographers and are maintained for the purpose of identifying, conserving, and growing temperate North American plants. The program that will be presented consists of approximately eighty slides showing a natural garden. Again quoting from GITW literature, "The Super Natural Garden introduces an ecologic approach to gardening that allows for and welcomes a rich diversity of plant and animal life including landscaping ideas and plant suggestions." There will also be some slides that give an overview of the Garden in the Woods itself..

Please join us for this presentation.

The second program SOLF will be presenting is at our Annual Meeting on Tuesday, May 13th, which will feature award winning nature illustrator and author Gordon Morrison. More information on page 2.

Save April 9th and May 13th.

Thank you to the following who have renewed memberships for 2008: (as of 3/22/2008)

Julia A. Andrieni & Robert Philips
 Philip & Elaine Beals
 Philip Bevins
 Robert Brown
 John Butler & Katherine Whitehouse
 Norman Clement
 Mark & Susan Conti
 Paul & Jean Conti
 Virginia Cumming
 Leon Cummings
 Anthony & Lydia D'Andrea
 Russ & Barbara Devlin
 Dennis & Patricia Doyle
 Andrew & Johanna S. Elias
 Jeffrey & Brenda Estella Falconi Brothers
 Eben & Win Gay
 Hewitt & Laura Heiserman
 John C. & Marty Henderson
 Gardner Hendrie & Karen Johansen
 Attila E. Herczeg & Susanne Healey
 William Hohenberger
 Anne Jones
 B.A. (Tony) & Judith S. King
 William & Michele Landes
 Anne-Marie Larche
 Thomas H. & Judith Little
 Douglas Livoisi
 Marjorie G. Lowry
 Philip J. Macaуда Jr.
 George & Jacquie McClelland
 Donna McDaniel
 Bernard & Betty Meyer
 Raymond & Betty Minnucci
 Marvin & Cyd Ostrovsky
 Charles Prenner & Joanne Cali
 Judith Quinlan
 Barbara & James Ramsdell
 Robert & Sharon Sanford
 Edward & Laura Settner
 Henry & Katherine Tiedemann
 Gregory & JoAnn Tobin
 Kenneth & Inge Tufts
 Dale Veeneman & Liz Henry
 Lynn Viamari
 Jacob & Margo Walter
 John & Laura Warren
 Amanda Watters
 Sally & Jed Watters
 Sheila Wilson

Apologies to anyone we may have inadvertently omitted.

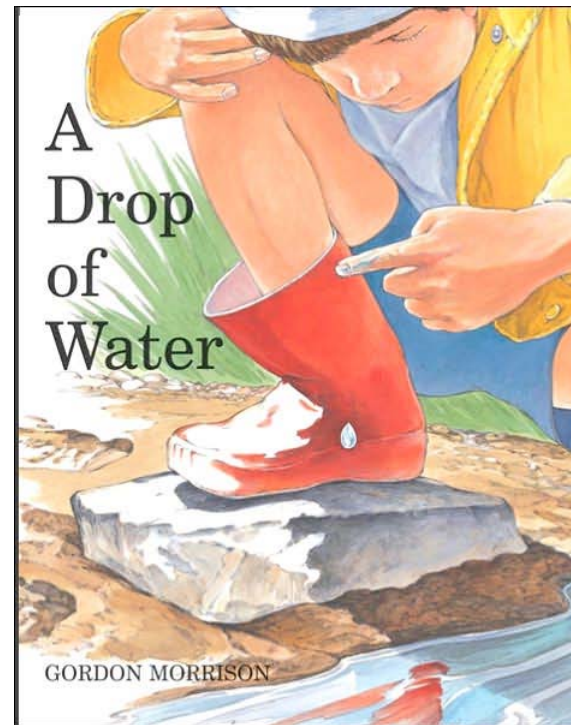
Annual Meeting to Feature Gordon Morrison

SOLF will hold its annual meeting on Tuesday May 13th at 7:30 at the Community House. Following a short business meeting at which the achievements of the past year and goals for the coming year will be discussed, renowned naturalist Gordon Morrison will speak and show his work. He is a Massachusetts native, having been born and raised in Allston. He currently lives in Natick. He has illustrated many books on natural history including the well-known *Newcomb's Wildflower Guide* by Lawrence Newcomb and *The Curious Naturalist* by John Hanson Mitchell. He has done a series of prints for the New England Wildflower Society and wrote and illustrated a "Birds in the Garden" and a "Native Americans" (plants) series for *Horticulture Magazine*. He has written and illustrated award-winning books for young readers including *Bald Eagle*, *Oak Tree*, *Pond*, *Nature in the Neighborhood*, and *A Drop of Water*.

Great Horned Owl by Gordon Morrison



Mr. Morrison received the John Burroughs award for outstanding natural history books for children for his book *A Drop of Water*. The John Burroughs Association selects books for its annual award which it feels will help awaken interest in natural history among young people by presenting "perceptive and artistic accounts of experiences in the world of nature." The award was presented in April 2007 at a luncheon at the American Museum of Natural History in New York City.



SOLF OFFERS OPPORTUNITY TO JOIN DCU

We are pleased to announce that membership in the Southborough Open Land Foundation will now entitle you to become a member of the Digital Federal Credit Union. DCU is a not-for-profit financial cooperative owned by and operated for its members. DCU was chartered in October of 1979 and now serves more than 300,000 members and their families in all 50 states. DCU is the largest credit union headquartered in New England as measured by assets and among the top 15 nationwide. According to Callahan & Associates, a credit union consulting group, of the top 50 largest, DCU has been the fastest growing credit union in America in the last ten years. DCU offers competitive interest rates and extensive financial services. SOLF will be included on a list of non-profit organizations, which prospective members of DCU may choose to join as a means of attaining membership in DCU at the Westborough or Framingham branches or at the two Marlborough locations. People who are already members of SOLF may join DCU by showing their current membership card.

FIFTH ANNUAL RIVER FEST – JUNE 14TH, 2008

. The Fifth Annual River Fest will take place on Saturday, June 14th from noon to 3 P.M. River Fest is part of a national celebration of the important role of rivers in our nation, and locally, in our community. The main focus is to highlight the environmental attributes and recreational possibilities of the Sudbury River in Southborough. There are many residents of town who do not realize that the river is in town. River Fest gives them the opportunity to get “up close and personal” with the river, a truly beautiful resource.

The Sudbury River Watershed Organization puts on River Fest. Also working on the event are the Southborough Open Space Preservation Commission, the Recreation Department, and SOLF. In the past years, the event has drawn over a hundred participants who have had the

opportunity to take canoe rides on the river, participate in nature themed scavenger hunts, and build twig fairy houses. Most of the activities for River Fest take place in the Wood Street yard of SOLF trustee Deborah Costine. This year an additional activity will be a trail walk at 1:00 on SOLF’s Barber Pasture, which abuts the Sudbury River.

Canoeing the Sudbury photo by Linda Hubley



VERNAL POOL PRESENTATION



Wood frog
Photo from:
www.vernalpool.org



Spotted Salamander
Photo from:
www.vernalpool.org

On Wednesday, March 12th, several members of SOLF were among those who gathered at the Town House to watch a fascinating slide show about vernal pools. The presentation, given by the Southborough Open Space Preservation Commission, focused on the importance of vernal pool habitats and why the species found there are important resources. It also touched on the importance of certifying vernal pools. The slide show included photographs of several certified vernal pools within the Breakneck Hill Conservation Area in Southborough. Included among the photos were some of the wood frog and the spotted salamander and their egg masses which are found in the vernal pools and are important in the certification process. Commission member Thad Soule shared his knowledge of vernal pools and gave tips on how to photograph the flora and fauna of these pools which often, but not always, dry out during the summer months.

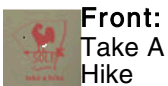
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- Whitney Beals
- John Butler
- Jack Canzoneri
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SHOW YOUR SUPPORT FOR SOLF. BUY A SOLF T-SHIRT. \$10 ea



Back:
Southborough Open Land
Foundation
Since 1988
Preserving our open spaces

Sizes:
Adult (red on khaki)
S, M, L, XL
Youth (red on lime green)
M, L

To order, call Carol at 508-485-1133 or Sally at 508-481-4720.
Or purchase at any SOLF event!

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 13th at 7:30 PM at the Community House. The guest speaker will be Gordon Morrison, illustrator and author of natural history books. At the annual meeting we will also be celebrating the presentation of the 4th annual Elaine Beals Award to David Morgan in recognition of his outstanding contributions to town and regional conservation efforts. More information about the meeting may be found on page 2.

SOLF NEEDS YOUR HELP

SOLF deeply appreciates all your support. We now need to remind you it is time to renew membership. Of equal, or even greater importance, is our need for a little of your time. We need volunteers to serve as trustees and to help with other projects so to continue the work of protecting open space in Southborough. Thanks to those who have already renewed their membership. Membership is for the calendar year. You will receive a membership card.



RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP IN THE SOUTHBOROUGH OPEN LAND FOUNDATION:

Name: _____ Street: _____

Phone: _____ e-mail: _____
_____ \$25 individual _____ \$50 family _____ \$100 supporting _____ \$500 sponsor _____ \$1000 benefactor
_____ \$5000 corporate

If you are eligible for a matching gift, we would appreciate you applying for it.
All donations are tax deductible.

I would like to volunteer to: _____ serve as a trustee _____ help with mailings
_____ help with outdoor projects.

Southborough Open Land Foundation
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