



2017 ANNUAL MEETING 2016 ANNUAL REPORT

SAKONNET GOLF CLUB
JULY 11, 6 P.M.

SAKONNET
PRESERVATION
ASSOCIATION





2016-2017 DIRECTORS, OFFICERS AND STAFF

Abigail Brooks, *President*

Sheila Mackintosh,
Vice President

Bill Theriault, *Treasurer*

Jack Angell, *Secretary*

Ann Beardsley

Ron Bogle*

Michal Brownell

John Cook

Craig Curtis

Nan Haffenreffer

Warren Jagger

Don McNaughton

David Palumb

Heather Steers

Charlie Whipple

**retiring*

Holly Lippert,
Administrative Assistant

Kathy Klees Clarendon,
*Director of Development
& Communications*

*Buckeye on Goldenrod
photo: Geoff Dennis*

*Cover: West Island
photo: Carol Trocki*



2016-17 VOLUNTEERS

Jack Angell	Property Monitor
Paul Bazzoni	Property Monitor
Ann Beardsley	Property Monitor
Ron Bogle	Property Monitor
Bob Brayley	Property Monitor
Tara Bradley	Property Monitor
Abigail Brooks	Property Monitor
Alix Campbell	Property Monitor
Chris Clarendon	Design
Phoebe Cook	Property Monitor
Geoff Dennis	Photographer/Property Monitor
Kris Donovan	Photographer/Mailings
Aiden Fitzgerald	Newsletter contributor
Chip Fuller	Property Monitor
Raya Goff	Newsletter Editor
Mary Gordon	Property Monitor
Nan Haffenreffer	Property Monitor
Charlie Hall	Property Monitor
Bente Hoegsberg	Property Monitor
Bob Hurrie	Property Monitor
Janet Jagger	Newsletter Editor
Warren Jagger	Property Monitor
Aidan Lippert	IT
Gary Lippert	IT
Delaney Lippert	Hospitality
Bill Mackintosh	Property Monitor
Sheila Mackintosh	Property Monitor
Geoff Manning	Property Monitor
Don McNaughton	Property Monitor
Dick Menoche	Property Monitor
Janice Olson	Property Monitor
David Palumb	Property Monitor
Mike Parker	Property Monitor
Barbara Passmore	Materials Distribution
Donna Pilkington	Property Monitor/Mailings
Jana Porter	Property Monitor
Ryan Post	Property Monitor
Donna Scott	Mailings
Jack Selvaggio	Property Monitor
Cindy Sheldon	Property Monitor
Heather Steers	Property Monitor
Margaret Tirpaeck	Annual Meeting
Betty Torphy	Property Monitor
Charlie Whipple	Property Monitor





VOLUNTEERS (CONTINUED)

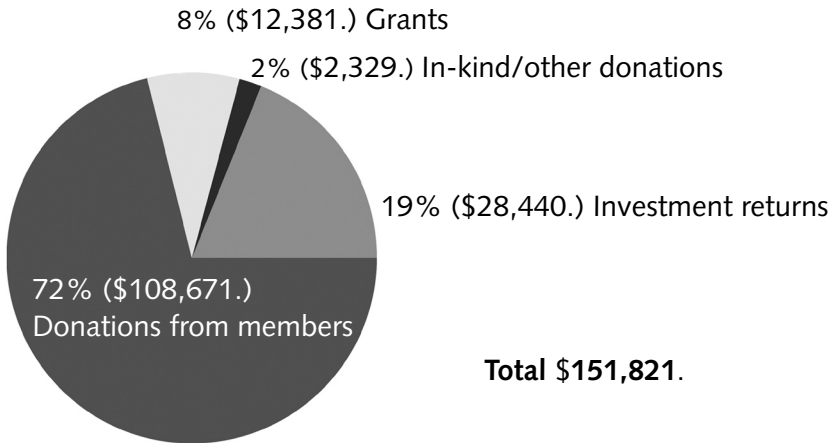
*Our dedicated volunteers donated **\$94,593.40** in time and effort to Sakonnet Preservation. What does that mean? It means that we would need to raise nearly twice as much in cash donations without their efforts to accomplish the same results.*

We **LOVE** our volunteers!

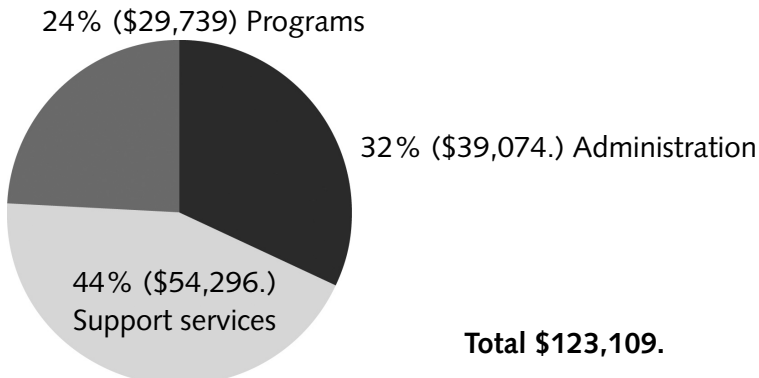
*Interested in volunteering? Call **635-8800**, and thanks!*

FINANCIALS

Revenue



Expenses





2016 ACTIVITIES MADE POSSIBLE BY OUR MEMBERS

LAND PROTECTION

With the help of Carol Lynn Trocki and a number of other community members, we have laid the groundwork to begin mapping Sakonnet Preservation's priority properties and resources for conservation.

Representatives of our board have been participating in a workshop series with four other East Bay conservation organizations (Warren, Bristol, Barrington and Tiverton) to explore areas of common need and potential collaboration. The workshops are funded by grants from the RI Land Trust Council and the Land Trust Alliance.

Sakonnet Preservation secured advance support from the other conservation groups operating in Little Compton as well as the Little Compton Town Council for the statewide Green Economy Bond referendum that received resounding support in the November election.

STEWARDSHIP & PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

32 community and Board member volunteer comprehensively monitored all of Sakonnet Preservation's holdings: 58 properties encompassing 441 acres of permanently protected lands.

Two major property violations were resolved amicably without resorting to litigation.

The Board laid the groundwork for the 2017 hiring of a part-time professional to lead our stewardship program.

ACCREDITATION RENEWAL

Sakonnet Preservation's accreditation was renewed by the national Land Trust Accreditation Commission. We were commended for the quality of materials presented to the Board for each new acquisition under consideration.

PUBLIC EDUCATION INITIATIVES

After supporting DEM's Salmon In The Classroom Program at the Wilbur/McMahon Schools for eight years, initiated by SPA Board member Bob Wolter, we have learned that this state-wide salmon egg-raising and salmon fry-release effort has had some success. The first returning Atlantic Salmon "smolt" [adolescent salmon] has been sighted in the Queen's River in the Wood/Pawcatuck watershed.





2016 ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED)

Our Public Information Committee is planning field trips to Simmons Mill Pond Management Area for middle schoolers at Wilbur/McMahon School. This and future activities will be tied to stewardship of the Eco-Oasis constructed two years ago at the school using native plants to re-create examples of various Little Compton habitat types. Sakonnet Preservation donated funds to establish a stewardship reserve for the care and tending of the Oasis.

Heather Faubert presented a public program at the Little Compton Community Center about the Winter Moth infestation that is ravaging our local trees. This program was extremely well-attended and promoted lively discussion. It was co-sponsored by the Eastern RI Conservation District and SPA.

Renowned ornithologist Alan Poole presented at Sakonnet Preservation's 2016 Annual Meeting. As an Associate at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and past senior editor of *The Birds of North America*, he told fascinating tales of his experiences with international osprey restoration following their near extinction.

GRANTS RECEIVED

The Haffenreffer Family Fund to support the hiring of a Development and Communications Director;

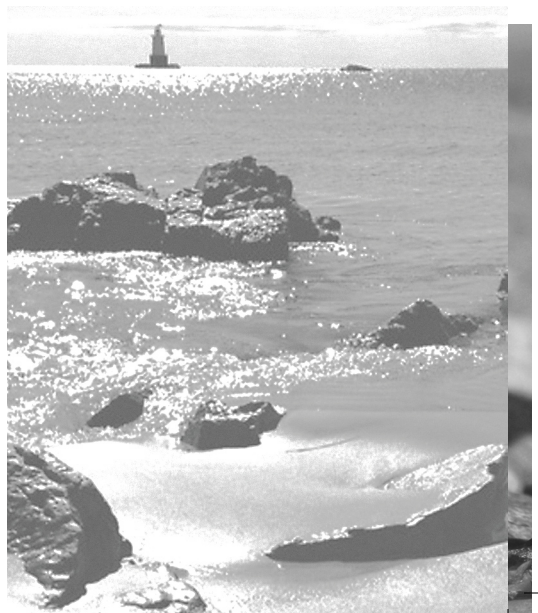
The Carter Fund for general operations;

The RI General Assembly for digitizing SPA records.

LAND & EASEMENT DONORS 1974 – 2016

*Our deepest appreciation for these
Little Compton heroes, thank you!*

ADK, LLC
Damaris S. Atwater
Nathaniel B. Atwater, Jr.
Lawrence C. Barone
Paul E. Bazzoni
Harlan C. Billings
Simone Blanchard*
Stuart Blazer*
David & Edith Borden
Christopher & Wendy Born
Frances Buffum
Thomas A. Buffum
Marion L. Burroughs
Manuel & Jennie Camara



LAND & EASEMENT DONORS (CONTINUED)

Leonard & Rosemary Colt
John & Alison Cooper-Mullin
David Cutts
Gordon Cutts
Katie & Peter Dolan
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Rush Taggart III
Geoffrey Alden Taylor
Hugh MacColl Taylor
Robert Kelson Taylor
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The Meadow, Inc.
Amelia Thomas
Lisette Tillinghast
Alan Trueblood
William Truscott
Sidney Lockwood Tynan
Adelaide VanderSalm
Randi Von Steinwehr
Robert & Elizabeth Wax
Sidney & Barbara Wentz
Susan Whitin
Deborah E. Wiley
Amasa & Marian Williston
Elizabeth Yeatman*

* *sellers*

Ruddy Turnstone
photo: Geoff Dennis



EXCELLENCE COMES IN THREES:

YOUR AWARD WINNERS !

Earlier this year, Sheila Mackintosh became the third Sakonnet Preservation board member to be honored with the Rhode Island Land Trust Council's Peter Merritt Award in the 16 year history of the award. This award honors those who have demonstrated a hands-on commitment to conservation, and Sheila joins an impressive group. Larry, Heather, and Sheila came to SPA from different backgrounds and with different degrees of knowledge of conservation, but all share the same passion for Little Compton and all have made vitally important contributions to it.

Little Compton is lucky indeed to have such a stellar group working for its benefit. They modestly say that they do not deserve the credit, that the dozens of board members and volunteers who have served SPA since its founding in 1972, have made their accomplishments possible. There will always be more work to be done, but the legacy of Sheila Mackintosh, Heather Steers, and Larry Anderson is their significant contribution to the preservation and stewardship of this extraordinary place we call home.

Peter Merritt Award winners: Heather Steers (2012), Sheila Mackintosh (2017) and Larry Anderson (2007)





TURNING BLUE BY DON McNAUGHTON

In April of 2016, I stood atop Springer Mountain in northwestern Georgia, readying to take my first step on the Appalachian Trail. Running the length of the country's easternmost mountain range, the AT (as it is popularly known) climbs summit upon summit, and descends valley upon valley, for 2,189 miles on its path from Georgia to Maine.

Two years in the planning, and twenty years in the dreaming, my expedition on the AT would prove the importance of preparation and perseverance. It would showcase the power of setting an intention, of resolutely envisioning an outcome. Above all else, it would be the adventure of a lifetime.

What brought me to the summit of Springer in my fifty-seventh year, ready to hike the AT's every mile? What moved me to set out on a six-month test of will during which I knew I would be cold, wet, tired, hot and hungry? What did I encounter along the way that helped reaffirm my place in this world?

John Muir said of his numerous adventures in nature that, "Going out....is really going in." I hiked by myself during the days, at times literally passing no one else from sunrise to sunset. I spent a lot of time inside myself, constantly scanning how I was feeling physically, mentally, spiritually. Other times, I lost myself in song, singing the same few numbers again and again.

But what I will remember most is the insanely empowering feeling of standing at a mountain's base, staring upwards at its long-off summit, and thinking nothing else than, "All right....let's go." With no trace of trepidation or uncertainty. Knowing that I would never again be in better physical shape for climbing.

And, I will forever remember the support I received on my hike. From "trail angels" along the way who relished the opportunity to help hikers as they tackled the AT. From my wife, who steadfastly kept me in the game and allowed me to live selfishly for six months. And, from all of you who followed my on-line journal, cheered me on with words of encouragement, and walked with me every step.

(continued)





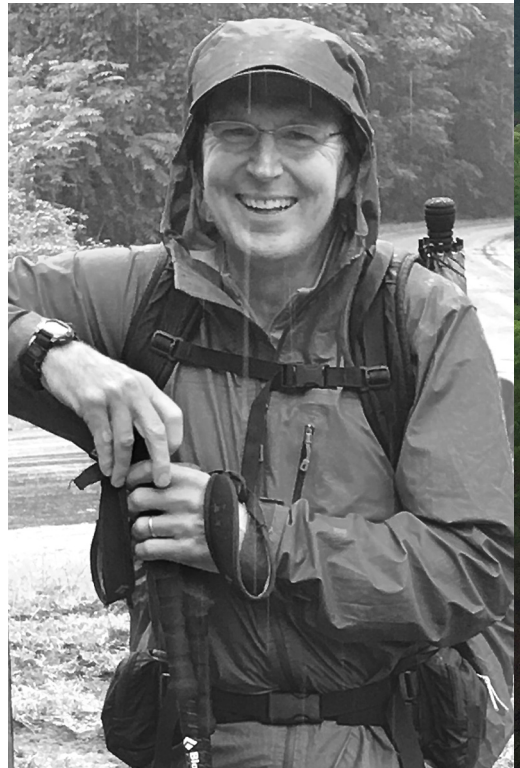
TURNING BLUE (CONTINUED)

During my time on the trail, I encountered the many moods of Mother Nature, shared the forest with black bears, snakes and barred owls, and soaked in the friendship of fellow hikers newly met. I carried all that I needed on my back, and nothing I didn't need. Before I left, I knew that my life was turning, that it was to be henceforth guided by my beliefs in simplicity, community, nature and beauty. I anticipated that the AT would grandly reinforce these tenets, and I indeed returned with my life's direction confirmed and strengthened.

I am thrilled that Sakonnet Preservation has asked me to speak at its Annual Meeting. I have seen firsthand that it, too, is guided by a faith in simplicity, community, nature and beauty. I look forward to sharing my AT stories, photographs and enthusiasms with you, and, in the process, reaffirming our collective love for Little Compton.

To read my on-line journal, please go to trailjournals.com/57ontheAT

*Don's last day on the trail,
finishing in the rain*





Nantahala National Forest from Albert Mountain, southwestern North Carolina
photo: Don McNaughton





*Knife Edge, Mount Katahdin, ME, northern terminus of the Appalachian Trail
photo: Don McNaughton*



SAKONNET
PRESERVATION
ASSOCIATION

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