

# SQUAM LOOKOUT

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE SQUAM LAKES CONSERVATION SOCIETY

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*"Squam's Land Trust"*

FALL 2011

## Annual Gathering



Over the past several years, SLCS has endeavored to find different and intriguing locations for its annual meeting. We've been in barns and fields, in the center of town, on the lake and far from shore. Participation

has steadily increased, and so has something else. To quote one member, "what I like about Annual Meeting is its sense of community."

It used to be that our annual meeting was little more than fulfilling a requirement to elect directors and officers and discuss progress and plans. The focus was on the organization. Annual Meeting has evolved to be much more. It's become an event that puts land conservation into a greater context, a chance to get a different perspective of the watershed and take a hike on recently conserved lands, and a rare opportunity to gather in an informal setting with those who share a passion for land conservation and Squam.

This year, we were fortunate to be hosted by Camp Hale in Sandwich, one of the few youth camps remaining on the lake, which is remarkable considering Squam is the birthplace of youth camps (Camp Chocorua, 1881). Since 1900, Camp Hale has been connecting children with nature, providing positive role models, teaching coping skills, espousing low-impact practices, and introducing campers to Squam.



Gathered together overlooking Sandwich Bay, camp director Jerrell Cox welcomed us and said, "I am fortunate to say, like many of you, I

too have grown up on Squam." Eighteen years ago, Jerrell arrived as a 10-year-old camper from inner-city Boston and has come back each year to deepen his commitment to the mission of Camp Hale. Not only did we get a glimpse of their critical work in providing worthy boys life-changing experiences and relationships, but we were also able to see and hear how land conservation helps set the table for building meaningful relationships between each other and with nature.

We are grateful to Jerrell and Camp Hale for hosting this year's gathering and for being an important part of Squam. We also thank you as a member of SLCS for helping Squam remain a place worthy of programs like Camp Hale, and for building and sustaining an unparalleled and caring community.

*Roge*



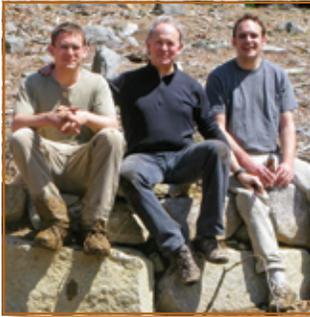
Participants at this year's Annual Meeting received a SLCS coffee travel mug courtesy of Meredith Village Savings Bank. It's not just the coffee that is hot, these mugs are very 'hot items' themselves.

Molly Whitcomb, Development Chair, has issued a unique fund-raising challenge: for every SLCS travel mug that is brought to next year's Annual Meeting, donors will commit \$20 per mug to SLCS's efforts. You can still get your free mug by visiting the SLCS office.



Then we'll see you next August.

For more on the Annual Meeting visit  
[www.squamlakes.com](http://www.squamlakes.com)



## The Brown Preserve

Dr. Herbert Brown has donated a conservation easement on 57 acres of his property along the shore of White Oak Pond. Herb and sons, Will and Peter, have treasured this “off-grid” property over the last 25 years as a retreat from their busy lives in Boston. Will and Peter have been planting fruit trees and maintaining a vegetable garden on the parcel adjacent to the conservation area.

The Browns were inspired to add to the protection of White Oak Pond when, in 2008, Bob Haskell placed his abutting land into conservation. The combination of topography, forest cover, wetlands, White Oak Pond shoreline and all the undeveloped land surrounding the property make it ideal as wildlife habitat.



## Squam

By Philip T. Hackett

First time Squam visitor from Limerick, Ireland

Artist of divine creation  
Look down on Golden Pond  
Let the clouds of heaven dissipate  
No downpour change the mood.

Send forth the light of inspiration  
Shake the granite easel upward  
Make the Squam water colour.

Blend the pine and oak frame  
From the hillside to the shore.

Give to all creatures the life  
Within the mirror of this art,  
Let it be like so forever  
Looking down of Golden Pond.



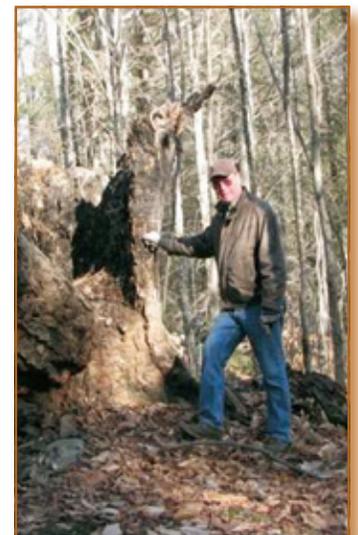
Sallie Wolf, 2011 for SLCS

## Welcome our newest Board Member



We are pleased to welcome Frank Stevens to our Board of Directors. He has been a lifelong visitor to the Squam Lakes, and a year-round resident since 1996. Frank is a graduate

of the University of Pennsylvania, where he studied environmental design. He has been a Licensed Land Surveyor in New Hampshire for 24 years. In 1915, the Stevens family bought property on Leavitt Hill in Ashland and Holderness, most of which has since been placed in conservation. In 1984, Frank purchased the adjacent land and farmhouse where he now resides. He has served on the Ashland Planning Board, and is a member of the SLCS Lands Committee. Other interests include boating, flying, local history, and exploring the woodlands and countryside of the Squam watershed.



## Greenleaf Hill Farm



Frances and Malcolm (Tink) Taylor, as Trustees of the Mt. Morgan Revocable Trust, have donated a conservation easement to protect 48-acres of their woodlot rising up the slope of Mt. Morgan. This property is bounded to the west by Bennett Brook, a substantial tributary of Big Squam Lake. This easement protects both the brook and the slopes from development, contributing to the scenic values as seen from the public waters of Squam Lakes and Route 113, a state-maintained highway and designated “Scenic Route” around Squam Lake.



## The Heron Society

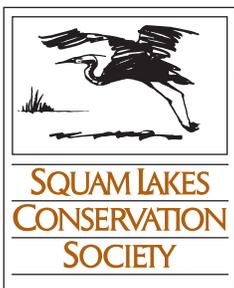


A year ago when planning our 50th anniversary, it became clear we needed to address a major concern, namely the lack of sufficient capital to support the perpetual stewardship responsibilities that accompany our success in conserving property. We took a big step forward last year by doubling our endowment and launching a Planned Giving effort.

We are pleased to announce that we’ve received 43 commitments in the form of planned gifts, and that this group has adopted “Heron Society” as its name. Please contact us if you would consider adding SLCS in your estate planning, or perhaps already have made such a commitment. Thank you to the following donors for their commitment to Squam and its future.

Anonymous (4)  
Armstrong, Tom & Rachel  
Beeson, Laurie & Susan  
Christodouloupoulos, Leslie  
Colthart, Jim & Jackie  
Conover, Woolsey and Bea  
Coolidge, Nat  
Coolidge, Peter & Carrie  
Davenport, Dick  
English, Alan & Gerry  
Fisher, Tim and Audrey  
Grady, Nancy  
Graham, Don and Ingrid  
Graves, Elizabeth  
Guyre, Paul & Ronnie  
Kelsey, Tom & Liz  
Larochelle, Roger & Jennifer  
Laverack, Sam & Barbara  
Mathieson, Helen  
McGinnes, Sandy

Mowatt, Daphne  
O’Neil, Dan  
Preston, David & Barbara  
Ridgely, Bev & Barbara  
Schulz, Marnie  
Sinkler, David & Becky  
Stevens, Frank  
Stevenson, Bayne and Jean  
Steward, Gil & Sally  
Thompson, John & Carol  
Vaill, Tim & Lucy  
Van Winkle, Peter & Prudy  
Waldhausen, John & Marion  
Wardlaw, Lisa  
West, Angus and Elizabeth  
West, Jennifer  
Whitcomb, Scott & Molly  
Whitmore, Betsy and Bruce  
Wood, Dick and Chris  
Wood, Peter and JoAnn



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**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

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- Paul Guyre**  
*Vice-President*
- Molly Whitcomb**  
*Vice-President*
- Betsy Whitmore**  
*Vice-President*
- Tim Vaill**  
*Treasurer*
- David Preston**  
*Secretary*

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- Barbara Grossman**
- Tom Kelsey**
- Beverly LaFoley**
- Carl Metzger**
- Robert Ridgely**
- David Sinkler**
- Frank Stevens**
- Angus West**
- Peter Wood**
- Richard Wood**

*Honorary Directors*

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- Richard Davenport**
- Nancy Grady**
- John Morgridge**
- Daphne Mowatt**
- Russ Orton**
- Bertram Read**
- Peter Richards**
- Beverly Ridgely**
- Rawson Wood**

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*Executive Director*
- Alicia Abbott**  
*Administrator*
- Joan Turley**  
*Stewardship*

## WORKING GROUPS

It's fall. The air is crisp and the days are short. It's the time of year to reflect on great summer memories and put our "houses in order" before the long winter. At SLCS it has been another wonderful summer. There was limitless energy all around the watershed and we're carrying that energy into the fall by getting *our* house in order. We now have five WORKING GROUPS within our volunteer ranks. These groups take stewardship beyond monitoring by enhancing the properties in our care.



**Ecosystem Restoration Group** is working to inventory the invasive species on our properties and will work to assure that they have minimal negative impact on the natural environment.

**Friends of Unsworth** is a committed group of folks who have watched over Unsworth Preserve for over 15 years.

**Friends of Levi Smith** help maintain this wonderful 125-acre property in Sandwich, including the cemetery of its namesake.

**Sign Posting Group** hangs and maintains the SLCS signs on all of the SLCS properties.

**Spruce Group** is a loose gathering of energetic individuals and families who gather at least once a year to work on improving a specific property.

If you love the smell of leaves in the fall, the company of friends, and the feeling of making a difference, please join the "Spruce Group" on Veterans Day, Friday, November 11 at 10 AM. We will be assisting the Friends of Levi Smith with the removal of a hunting camp, trail improvements, and general clean-up. Contact 968-7900 or [alicia@squamlakes.com](mailto:alicia@squamlakes.com)

**Yes!** I want to help preserve the unique quality and character of the Squam watershed by protecting the lands for present and future generations. Enclosed is my donation to the SLCS.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Amount \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp date \_\_\_\_\_ Visa AmEx MasterCard