Greetings and welcome to the Tiverton Land Trust 2016 Annual Report.

While 2016 was a year of leadership transition for the Tiverton Land Trust (and the world more broadly), it was also a year of great accomplishment. Many hikers enjoyed the trails at Pardon Gray Preserve, Basket Swamp and Highland Woods. More than 1500 visitors joined in the festivities at A Country Day at Pardon Gray. At August’s Skywatch, 200 folks peered through telescopes to view Mars, the rings around Saturn, and other celestial bodies. Experimental work began with grazing goats at Pardon Gray Preserve to determine if they can play an important part in grassland habitat improvement. We launched a new website that is easier to update and encourages community engagement. And the Tiverton Land Trust celebrated a 15-year benchmark in collaboration with the Tiverton Open Space Commission and The Nature Conservancy as the Pocasset Ridge Conservation Area became a single, contiguous 500-acre protected forest managed by all three organizations. These trails will open by fall 2017.

Five new directors joined the board in 2016 and early 2017: Michele Jalbert, Bill Gerlach, Mike Burk, Eduardo Rodriguez and myself. Due to term limits, the Land Trust lost two long-term officers at the end of 2016: President John Foley and Treasurer Mike Shand. Both played instrumental roles in the Trust’s continued growth and current strength, and were critical in securing national accreditation. Our board colleague Carmen Grinkis, ever a loyal supporter, also resigned because of professional obligations. Both John and Mike, along with past president Connie Lima, have agreed to remain in consulting or committee roles to assist in a smooth transition.

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When I think of the Trust’s mission, I can’t help but think of how a sports writer once described the role of the defense in the game of football. While the job of the offense is to ‘make something happen,’ the goal of a good defense is described as ‘keeping something from happening.’ And for the Land Trust, that something is poorly conceived development and degradation of open space within our town borders. Imagine driving south on Main Road passing a myriad of driveways accessing the “Pardon Gray Estates” housing development. That would likely be the reality today if it weren’t for the foresight and hard work of the Tiverton Land Trust founders, whose efforts resulted in the Pardon Gray Preserve as a protected asset. As a Tiverton resident, I’m forever thankful for folks like those. My goal and that of my fellow board members, dedicated volunteers and donors is to ensure that future generations of visitors and residents enjoy well-planned, maintained and protected open spaces.

If these efforts are of value to you, we encourage you to support the Tiverton Land Trust. Additionally, anyone with an interest in helping the Trust in any capacity (trail maintenance, committees, Pardon Gray Day participation, protecting land from future development, etc.) please feel free to contact us. You can read more about us and our mission or contact us via our website at tivertonlandtrust.org.

In the meantime, please enjoy the annual report, our upcoming events, and Tiverton’s exceptional outdoor resources.

Eric Watne, President

**2016 HIGHLIGHTS**

**Land Protection**
- Put together the final piece of a 15-year preservation project, the Pocasset Ridge Conservation Area, in partnership with the Tiverton Open Space Commission and The Nature Conservancy. These 500 acres of contiguous oak-holly forest will safeguard important wildlife habitat while providing spectacular hiking areas.
- Continued negotiation and review of potential properties for acquisition and conservation easements.

**Property Management/ Improvements**
- Introduced goatscaping at Pardon Gray Preserve in collaboration with Weatherlow Farm as an experimental land management tool to control unwanted plants and improve soil.
- Cleared winter storm damage on trails at Highland Woods and Basket Swamp Preserve.
- At Highland Woods, cleared the entrance area of invasive undergrowth; work continues on trail construction and improvement.

**Community Forum**
- Dr. Elizabeth Farnsworth, Senior Research Ecologist at New England Wild Flower Society, spoke on “The Little Things that Run the World: The Importance of Plant-Insect Interactions” ~ April 17.
- The first-ever Volunteer of the Year Awards were made to Bill Jenkins, “our faithful and dedicated postman” and Marcia Phillips for her work as “pie lady, thank-you note writer and steadfast back-room helper”.

**Community Outreach and Events**
- A Country Day at Pardon Gray saw its best attendance, over 1500 people ~ September 17.
- Families joined in a spring walk to the vernal pools at Pardon Gray to observe local amphibian creatures ~ April 8.
- Skywatch at Pardon Gray drew 200 people to peer through telescopes at celestial bodies ~ August 27.
- TLT joined in “an artful alliance” with Gallery 4 for the exhibition Nature Preserved. A percentage of art sales from the exhibition was donated to support the Trust ~ July 2 – September 30.

**Special Projects**
- As one of 7 RI land trusts selected for the “RI Records Management Project,” TLT received consulting advice and digitized all our property records. This project was co-sponsored by the Land Trust Alliance and RI Land Trust Council.
- Our new website effort, led by Jennifer Escher, will educate and inform the community, engage prospective members and donors, and provide interactive feedback.

**Changes to the TLT Board of Directors and Advisory Committee**
- Eric Watne, President
- Jennifer Escher, Vice President (along with Richard D’Addario)
- Mike Burk, Treasurer
- Additional New Directors: Bill Gerlach, Michele Jalbert, Eduardo Rodriguez
- John Foley, Retired Board Member
- Mike Shand, Retired Board Member
- Stetson Eddy, Retired Advisor
# 2016 Financial Summary

## Operation Account

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Memberships</td>
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<tr>
<td>Membership Contributions</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donations</td>
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<tr>
<td>General Donations, Memorials, Honorariums</td>
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<td>Fundraising Events</td>
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<tr>
<td>In-Kind Donations, Pardon Gray Day</td>
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<td>Temporarily Restricted Income</td>
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<tr>
<td>RIIF grants, donations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interest &amp; Dividends</td>
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<td><strong>Total Income</strong></td>
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<td>Expenses</td>
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<td>Office &amp; Operations</td>
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<td>Utilities, Postage, Rent, Insurance, Office Equipment, Contractors</td>
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<td>Education &amp; Training</td>
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<td>Conferences, Meetings, Consultants</td>
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<td>Public Outreach</td>
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<td>Newsletters, Reports, Events, Publicity, Website, Fundraising</td>
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<td>Property Management</td>
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<td>Highland Woods trails, General Property Maintenance, Monitoring, Improvements, Equipment, Tools</td>
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<td>Property Acquisition</td>
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<td>Appraisals, Surveys, Escrow</td>
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<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
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<td>Unrestricted Funds</td>
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## Land Acquisition Account

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<td>Grants</td>
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<td><strong>Total Income</strong></td>
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<td>Property Acquisition</td>
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<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
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<td>Unrestricted Funds</td>
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## Stewardship Account

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<td>Interest, Dividends</td>
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<td><strong>Total Income</strong></td>
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<td>Expenses</td>
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<td>Stewardship</td>
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<td><strong>Net for Year</strong></td>
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<td>Temporarily Restricted Funds</td>
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## Other Financial Assets

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<th>Tiverton Land Trust Fund - Market Value as of 12/31/16</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Held &amp; Managed by RI Foundation – Principal protected, yearly grants restricted to property management expenses.</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

## Liabilities

| This financial statement is subject to reviews by an independent CPA. |

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- Norm Abram & Elise Hauensien
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- Alex Bond
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- Abigail Brooks & Nicholas Long
- Wayne & Eileen Browning
- Bob & Dee Bruno
- Mike Burk, Seena Franklin & Marni Burk
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- Ethel M. Lake
- Muriel Lapointe
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- Chip & Gayle Lawrence
- Ruth & Cecil Leonard
- Daniel & Joan Leveangie
- Donald & Sarah Libbey
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Ruth E. Manchester
Connie & Tony Marks
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Linda & Bill Jenkins
In Honor of Constance Lima:
Donald & Sarah Libbey
Chris & Marlene Smith
In Honor of Marcia Phillips:
Anonymous
In Honor of Chris & Marlene Smith:
Brandon & Kate DeCoff

Memorial Gifts
In Memory of Janice Bond:
Alex Bond
In Memory of Annette Hibbad:
Cecil & Ruth Leonard
In Memory of Gertrude J. Oulette:
Elizabeth Ouellette-Maltby

Foundations & Organizations
RI Department of Environmental Management
Rhode Island Foundation

Businesses
Acorn Nonprofit Solutions
Alexander, Aronson, Finning & Company
Charitable Foundation
BankNewport
Bay Coast Bank
Dr. Joseph Boiven O.D. Limited
Brookdale Sakonnet Bay
Citizens Charitable Foundation
Clark’s Christmas Tree Farm
Coastal Roasters
Dunkin’ Donuts
FoleyCerilli Counselors at Law
Gallery 4
George’s Gas
Gray’s Ice Cream
Good Graphic Design
Hathaway Farms
Hodges Badge Company
Interstate Insurance & Finance Co.
Lapointe Insurance Services
Law Offices Robert H. Humphrey
Newport Harbor Corporation
Paquin Insurance Agency
Tom’s Lawn & Garden
Viti, Inc.

Calendar Year 2016 Contributors

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SAVE THE DATES:

Sunday, April 23 at 2:00 p.m.
Community Forum
Professor Mark Bertness of Brown University presents How Will Salt Marsh Die-off and Sea Level Rise Get Along?

Brookdale Sakonnet Bay
Get Along? How Will Salt Marsh Die-off and Sea Level Rise Get Along?
Professor Mark Bertness of Brown University presents How Will Salt Marsh Die-off and Sea Level Rise Get Along?

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Main Road, Tiverton, RI
Pardon Gray Reserve

Saturday, September 23
A Country Day at Pardon Gray
10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Pardon Gray Preserve
1215 Main Road, Tiverton, R.I.

Tiverton Land Trust
P.O. Box 167
Tiverton, RI 02878
401-625-1300
www.tivertonlandtrust.org