



MANCHESTER LAND CONSERVATION TRUST  
FOUNDED 1972

## Spring 2017 Terra Firma

Newsletter of the Manchester Land Conservation Trust | Info: 860-643-1823  
20 Hartford Road, Manchester, CT 06040

Website: [www.manchesterlandtrust.org](http://www.manchesterlandtrust.org) | Facebook: [www.facebook.com/Manchesterlandtrust](http://www.facebook.com/Manchesterlandtrust) | Twitter: @MLCT

### Saluting our membership!

Together we preserve open space lands and water resources. Together we promote an interest in the outdoors, lead hikes, maintain trails and habitat for the animals, trees, and plants in the natural world, particularly on the Trust's 450 acres in Manchester, Andover, Bolton, East Hartford, Glastonbury, and Vernon. Together, we advocate for land conservation for use by the public.

### Saluting our volunteers!



*Above*, volunteers install a "Heads Up Hartford" bench at our dam at Upper Case Pond, June, 2016.

*Below*, a volunteer works to free up a tree from invasive Asiatic Bittersweet at our farm on Bush Hill Road, December, 2015.



### Saluting our properties!



*Above*, Risley Park, 155 acres.  
*Below*, Cheney railroad, 5.7 acres.



*Above*, Salter's Pond, 9 acres.  
*Below*, Upper Case Pond, 7.6 acres.



### Upcoming events

Manchester location unless noted otherwise

- **Annual dinner & meeting**, Thursday, May 18, 5:30 p.m., at Hilliard Mills, 642 Hilliard St. See invitation on page 3, which includes info on paying via credit card. **\$20** members, **\$25** non-members.
- **Cheney Railroad walk**, Saturday, May 27 at 1:00 p.m. Meet at the tracks north of 2 Main St. Park in strip mall north of tracks. Free. Special favor for kids.
- **GIANT TAG SALE**, June 9 to 17 from 9:00 to 2:00 each day, 330 Bush Hill Rd. Got donations? Drop off saleable books, household items, tools, artwork, etc. 11:00 to 2:00 on May 5 & 6, 12 & 13, 19 & 20, June 2 & 3.
- **Hike the farm trails**, Saturday, June 24 at 1:00, meet at 330 Bush Hill Rd. for a free 2.5-mile hike to explore our 62-acre farm.
- **Cheney Railroad: Walk the opposite way!** Saturday, July 29 at 1:00 p.m., meet at 146 Hartford Rd. to hike along the streets and discover the railroad from south to north. Free. 2.5 to 3 miles. Heavy rain cancels.

*More: Visit the Events page of [www.manchesterlandtrust.org](http://www.manchesterlandtrust.org)*  
Keep up to date on events via our Facebook page.

[www.facebook.com/Manchesterlandtrust](http://www.facebook.com/Manchesterlandtrust)



Follow us on  
Facebook

## Farm news

Yes! We own the 62-acre former Botti Farm! But...and it's a big BUT, we still owe \$100,000 on the bridge loan we took out in August 2015. HELP! Your donations would help A LOT! In addition to individual donations from members and friends, we applied for and received these grants:

State of Connecticut: \$594,750

Town of Manchester: \$98,000

Bafflin Foundation: \$25,000

Manch. Road Race Comm.: \$5,755

SBM Charitable Foundat'n.: \$2,000

In addition, our tag sale proceeds have been applied to the farm fund.



Our volunteers are at work nearly every day at the farm: mowing, moving debris (farmers are known for leaving old vehicles, etc., out "on the back 40"), removing invasives, and creating a parking lot, farm road, and trails around the property! This is one of the last large farm properties in Manchester, and a significant open space with forest, meadow, and pond. Combined with the abutting 13-acre Manning-Ferris property, donated in 1993, we now have a 75-acre section of Manchester / Glastonbury under protection, consistent with the State of Connecticut Green Plan and the Manchester 2020 Plan of Conservation and Development.

## Growing returns

Mitchel Colgan of Colgan Farm rents five acres of the farm and grows heirloom vegetables using sustainable farming

practices. He's in the process of setting up Community Support Agriculture (CSA) shares. More info on his Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/ColganFarm](http://www.facebook.com/ColganFarm).

*Photo of Mitchel Colgan by Normand Charlette.*



## Barn roof project



*Above, volunteers pose on the roof of the cider barn at 330 Bush Hill Rd.*

We knew we had to fix the giant hole in the roof of the cider barn, but it turned out that the entire roof had to be replaced, along with adding a new plywood base — a giant job, which was completed in June 2016. Thanks to SBM Charitable Foundation for \$2,000 for materials, Dave Sposito Construction for lending a power lift, Town of Manchester for donating use of a dumpster and tipping fees for disposal of the old materials. Volunteer workers: Colin McNamara, James Parla (sup'r), Anthony Chirico, Tom Parisi, Mike Chirico, Vincent Chirico, Shawna Glenney, and Ryan Kosis.

## Unique gifts

One of our members paid for all-day use of heavy equipment (AND a knowledgeable operator) to establish a drive-able road from the back of the cider barn to the former orchard. He also donated port-a-john service during the 2016 tag sales, a great convenience for shoppers and volunteers!

## Great trails

Come hike the trails—there are self-guiding trail maps in the Flyers section of our website [www.manchesterlandtrust.org](http://www.manchesterlandtrust.org). See the spring-fed pond that attracts wildlife, the vista from the top of Bush Hill, the paths and meadows — a haven for birds and nature-lovers, runners and joggers.

## Farm volunteers welcome

Pictured: A work party in May 2016, left to right, Steve Botti, former owner of the farm;

Malcolm Barlow, Land Trust president; Brad Palmer, steward of the farm



property. To volunteer, email [info@manchesterlandtrust.org](mailto:info@manchesterlandtrust.org).

## Thank you, Eagle Scouts!

Great trail work and bridges by Boy Scout Troop 25 Eagle Scouts John Albright and Trent Riewe (pictured) with project liaison by Jon Mercier and



Doug MacGillvary. The work by John and Trent has made the farm paths accessible to those who aren't wearing waders. It can be very wet out there!



MANCHESTER LAND CONSERVATION TRUST  
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**You are invited...**

# Annual Meeting and Dinner ❖ Thursday, May 18

On the second floor of historic HILLIARD MILLS, 642 Hilliard St., Manchester, CT 06040; plenty of parking in the lots to the left and right of the entrance. Let us know if you need to use the elevator; otherwise, take the stairs immediately to the right when you enter the building. \$20.00 members; \$25 non-members. • **5:30 p.m.:** Social time, cheese & crackers. • **6:00 p.m.:** Buffet dinner by Brown Sugar Catering. • **7:15 p.m.:** Business meeting, including annual reports and election of board members. • **7:30 p.m.:** Tribute to the late Doug Smith, a founding member of the Land Trust, Hilliard Mills overview by owner Peter Bonzani, followed by Connecticut's bears program.

*Menu:* Salad, chicken, pasta, asparagus, potatoes, rolls, dessert, fruit punch, coffee, and tea.

## *Program about Connecticut's bears:*

UConn Assistant Professor of Wildlife Ecology Tracy Rittenhouse presents an illustrated program about Connecticut's bears. Tracy has a BS from University of Wisconsin-Madison and MS and PhD from University of Missouri-Columbia. She studies where wild animals live and how they travel through habitats. Tracy will present results from a four-year research project studying Connecticut's black bear population. *It's OK to come for the meeting and/or program if you can't attend the dinner.*

Tracy Rittenhouse with bear



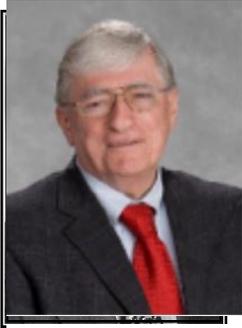
<p><b>Name of each guest. Please print clearly.</b> Please mail with check to 172 East Center St., Manchester, CT 06040, or hand deliver any weekday, 9 to 5. Please write DINNER on the envelope. Or use the Join/Us page online and pay via credit card. <a href="http://www.manchesterlandtrust.org">www.manchesterlandtrust.org</a></p>

Your telephone number \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Home address \_\_\_\_\_

Members @ \$20 each \_\_\_\_ . Non-members @ \$25 each \_\_\_\_ . • **Total enclosed** \_\_\_\_ . Check # \_\_\_\_\_ .

News from . . .



Malcolm Barlow  
*Land Trust President*

**“The Botti Farm  
needs the  
public’s  
financial  
support.”**

### **Board of Directors 2016-7**

Att’y Malcolm Barlow  
*President*

860-646-4081

Helen Robbins  
*Vice President*

Mary Tracy Albert  
*Treasurer*

William Doak  
*Recording Sec’y*

Elaine Law  
*Corresponding Sec’y*

Dick Borden

Colin McNamara  
*Stewardship Chair*

Theresa Parla  
*Membership Chair*  
860-643-1823

Justin Pedneault

••••

*Technical Advisor*  
Jack Bowden

*Webmaster, newsletter  
editor* Susan Barlow

[www.manchesterlandtrust.org](http://www.manchesterlandtrust.org)

Dear Land Trust Members and Friends:

### **Urgent need for funds**

A hearty THANK YOU to everyone who has donated money to pay off the mortgage on the 62-acre farm at Bush Hill Road. We still need to raise \$95,000, and we hope that you, our members and friends, will consider an additional generous gift to the Land Trust. If this farmland had been developed into housing — which it was zoned for — it would have changed the character of Manchester and Glastonbury, particularly this area in the southwest area of Manchester. Please let us know if you would like someone from the Board to come visit you and talk about this fundraising project. The whole Board has contributed substantially, and encourages all donations. In addition to cash donations from members and friends, the Land Trust has obtained grants for improvements to the property as well as toward the purchase price. And I can’t say enough about the volunteers who have worked to remove invasive plants, to save some of the fruit trees on the property, to remove debris, and to build some amazing trails for hikers and joggers. Come visit, perhaps during the tag sale or on one of our guided hikes — see page 1 for dates and times.

### **Supporting the Land Trust Forever: Wills, Trusts, Life Insurance, IRAs, 401ks, Annuities, Charitable Gift Annuities, and Land**

There are many ways that members and friends can make gifts to the Land Trust, including using estate plans and required minimum distributions (at age 70-1/2) from an IRA. Gifts should be designated to: Manchester Land Conservation Trust, Inc. of 20 Hartford Road, Manchester, Connecticut 06040, federal EIN 23-7212665.

The Trust has been an IRS-recognized charitable entity since 1972, the year we were founded. The IRS terms the Trust a 501(c)(3) organization making all gifts to the Trust tax deductible on annual 1040s and in estate tax returns. Gifts can be allocated to benefit the care of a specific Trust preserve in one of the six towns served by the Trust — Andover, Bolton, East Hartford, Glastonbury, Manchester, and Vernon. An unallocated gift will be applied as the Board of Directors deems most appropriate at the time.

Surveys of charitable donors indicate that “tax avoidance” is a minor reason for gifts. Most donors have a heart-felt desire to make a long-lasting difference in the world. The Land Trust believes that every effort we make, no matter how modest, will benefit the world in perpetuity — preserving open spaces with the result that our communities breathe better air, have purer water, and have the opportunity to enjoy the outdoors. A key aspect of the Trust’s work is that it has been done since 1972 entirely by volunteers. This means a gift to the Land Trust goes almost entirely to its work, with a small portion going to administrative costs: rent for our office, insurance, equipment for managing the preserves, and memberships in state and national land trust organizations.

If you have questions about making a gift to the Land Trust, you can contact a member of the board. Please check to see if your employer matches gifts! Donors can seek guidance from their attorneys, accountants, and financial advisors. A Land Trust’s goal is to preserve as much open space as possible. Donors of open space land to the Trust are special people. And their gifts of land can be testaments to the donors in perpetuity.

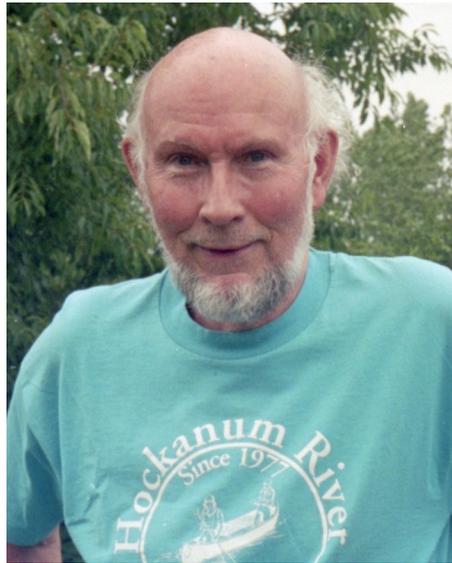
### **Wrapping up 2016**

Each year brings many challenges to the Trust...but each year also brings more visitors to our properties, more guests on our free hikes, and more interest in preserving the land. In 2016, we added the 15.9-acre Stickney Hill, Rockville. We can be proud of what the Land Trust does for the community, the environment, the planet.

Malcolm Barlow, President | [MBarlow@MalcolmBarlow.com](mailto:MBarlow@MalcolmBarlow.com) | 860-646-4081

### In memorium: Doug Smith

Dedicated conservationist, founding member and first president of the Land Trust, Douglas Smith, M.D., passed away peacefully at his home in Manchester, on March 28, 2017.



Doug was born February 21, 1928, and came to Manchester in 1959 as an anesthesiologist at the hospital. He and his wife, the late Jean (Campbell) Smith raised their three children in Manchester. Doug was the inspiration behind the Hockanum River Linear Park Committee, a volunteer group that has constructed and maintained miles of trails along the Hockanum River since 1977. Doug was known for his passionate work to preserve nature and to promote enjoyment of the outdoors. He seemed to be able to identify every tree, flower, and bird, no matter how obscure, and he delighted in a good joke. He served on the Conservation Commission and Trust board. He worked with Town and State officials, volunteers, the Art Association, and many other organizations, always looking for volunteers to continue the work of providing great trails for the public to enjoy.

## Membership

Our members support us in taking on our many conservation projects!

Membership year: Oct. 1 to Sept. 30	
<b>MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES:</b>	
Annual:	<input type="checkbox"/> Corporate: \$200
	<input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining: \$100
	<input type="checkbox"/> Individual: \$25
	<input type="checkbox"/> Family: \$50

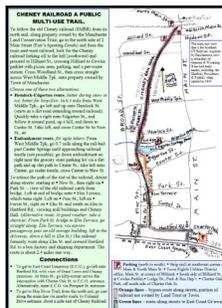
Thank you! If you have not renewed your membership, or if you want a membership form for you or a friend, or want to upgrade to life membership (\$500), call membership chair Terry Parla 860-643-1823, or renew online with a credit card on the *Join / Donate* page on our website

[www.manchesterlandtrust.org](http://www.manchesterlandtrust.org) — where you can also give a gift membership or donation to honor a friend or relative. **Our current membership:** 298 members, of whom 164 are life members (many members are couples, so this represents about 340 members).

Terry, April 2017

### Trail maps

Check out the *Flyers* section of [www.manchesterlandtrust.org](http://www.manchesterlandtrust.org) for self-guiding maps of the Cheney Railroad trail and of the farm on Bush Hill Road. Enjoy a walk on your own or bring a friend or a dog!



The Manchester Land Conservation Trust owns 435 acres of open space in Manchester, Andover, Berlin, East Hartford, Glastonbury, and Vernon. There are trails on several of the parcels, and we hold free hikes throughout the year — see the Events page of our website [www.manchesterlandtrust.org](http://www.manchesterlandtrust.org).

- As you take a walk on the *Flow* property, these words may inspire you. — quotation from John Muir (1838-1914), an advocate of land preservation.
- Climb the mountains and get their good tidings. Nature's peace will flow into you as sunshine flows into trees. The winds will blow their own freshness into you and the storms their energy, while rains will drop the planet's tears over you. — John Muir (1838-1914), an advocate of land preservation.
- So extraordinary a Nature with her almost tremulous, wondrous playfulness as the spirit's serenade, pouring it forth into land and sea, garden and desert. And in the beauty of it all falls on angels and men, bees and squirrels, swallows and sheep, birds and bees. — John Muir (1838-1914), an advocate of land preservation.
- Come to the woods, for here is rest. There is no repose like the rest of the great deep woods. Here grow the wallflower and the violet. The woodruff will come and tell you your knee, the logcock will make you at the morning. Sleep in the fragrance of all this. — John Muir (1838-1914), an advocate of land preservation.

— John Muir (1838-1914), an advocate of land preservation. The *Unpublished Journals of John Muir*, published 1924.



One of the Land Trust's free hikes at the farm. Farm Pond with "Street Trail" green line at the edge. Former Truitt orchard in background.

**land trust**  
MANCHESTER  
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Manchester Land Conservation Trust

**TRAIL MAP**  
of the Trust's farm on Bush Hill Rd. Follow white-painted blazes on trees. Start at the rear of the older barn at 330 Bush Hill Rd., Manchester, CT, which is also the trail's GPS location. ABOUT TWO MILES.

View from high point of Bush Hill. The Land Trust bought this 62-acre property in 2015, under the leadership of grants, donations, and a bridge loan. We are still raising funds to pay off the loan. Can you help? See "Donate/Join" link on [www.manchesterlandtrust.org](http://www.manchesterlandtrust.org)

20 Hartford Road  
Manchester, CT 06040  
Phone: 860-643-1823  
[www.manchesterlandtrust.org](http://www.manchesterlandtrust.org)  
email: [info@manchesterlandtrust.org](mailto:info@manchesterlandtrust.org)

### Got tag sale items?

Please donate good, saleable books, household items, tools, furniture, artwork, sports and garden equipment, bric-a-brac, toys, etc. for our June 9-17 tag sale at 330 Bush Hill Rd., Manchester.

Manchester Land Conservation Trust  
**GIANT WEEK-LONG Tag Sale**  
**Fri., JUNE 9 to Sat., JUNE 17, 2017**  
9 a.m. to 2 p.m. every day.  
At the Land Trust's cider barn  
330 Bush Hill Rd., Manchester 06040

Mountains of items! Books, tools, artwork, curiosities, furniture, machinery, household and sports items, glassware, & items both useful and decorative.

♦ ♦ ♦ Accepting donations ♦ ♦ ♦

On most Fridays and Saturdays leading up to the tag sale, except Memorial Day weekend: May 5 & 6, 12 & 13, 19 & 20, AND June 2 & 3 from 11 to 2 each day, or phone for other drop-off times: Terry at 860-643-1823. Accepting good, saleable items. No clothes, no computers, no TVs, please.

Tag sale for the benefit of the Manchester Land Conservation Trust, preserving the natural landscape in the Manchester region, including farmland, an urban rail trail, ponds, forest, wetlands. More at [www.manchesterlandtrust.org](http://www.manchesterlandtrust.org)

Accepting donations (no clothes, no computers, please) on May 5 & 6, 12 & 13, 19 & 20, June 2 & 3 from 11:00 to 2:00 each day; phone for other drop-off times: Terry at 860-643-1823. This is a BIG fundraiser for the Land Trust and a bit of a social event as well. Do drop by! For details and a printable poster, see the *Events* page of our website [www.manchesterlandtrust.org](http://www.manchesterlandtrust.org). Can you put the poster on the bulletin board at work, school, church? We do need shoppers to buy all the great items. Pictured at right, Terry & Len Parla, organizers of our three tag sales in 2016: June, September, November.



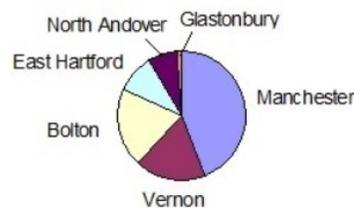
## Our properties

Founded in 1972, the Land Trust sought to preserve land in Manchester. Its first acquisition — about one-tenth of an acre on Lakewood Circle — was donated by the Gould family in 1974. In 1975, the Marsh family donated the 0.99-acre pond on Porter St. near their house. Larger properties followed: Salter’s Pond, Risley Park, etc. We now own 450 acres in six towns! Members can be proud of the work they have done over the last 45 years! For a full listing, visit the *Properties* page of [www.manchesterlandtrust.org](http://www.manchesterlandtrust.org).

**Acreage by Town**  
as of 12/2016

Manchester	197.16
Vernon	80.23
Bolton	91.00
East Hartford	45.00
North Andover	32.00
Glastonbury	5.00
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>450.39</b>

**Percent of Land Trust Acres by Town**



## Introducing Dick Borden, director



Dick Borden joined the Land Trust Board of Directors in 2016. He has served in Town government in Manchester and Glastonbury, and has an interest in preserving open spaces for future generations. As a realtor, he has a keen understanding of property values and marketability, which has come in very handy in the Board’s discussion of property acquisition. Dick and

his wife, Rita, live in Manchester. Welcome, Dick!

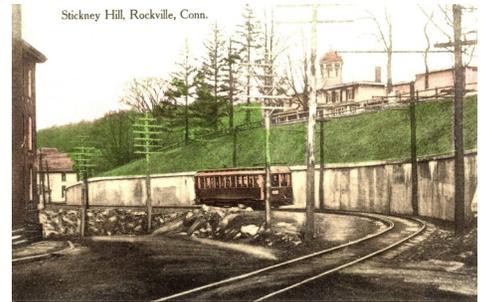
## Kindness of strangers

Thank you, random helpers! This couple was caught in the act of volunteering to pick up trash at Risley Park. Many folks we know bring along a plastic bag when hiking to pick up trash along the trails. This particular couple re-uses plastic bags that would otherwise have been thrown out.



## New acquisition: Stickney Hill Preserve

In December 2016, Richard Lee & Stephen Lamont donated a 15.9-acre parcel off Pleasant St. in the northeast section of Rockville to the Land Trust. It is a unique property, high up on a hill above the town.



*Old postcard of Stickney Hill, courtesy of local historian Jon Roe.*

Stewardship Chair Colin McNamara, and volunteers Doug MacGillvary and Rob Lewis are completing a great new hiking trail starting from Pleasant St. and meandering around



the property. Rob, pictured on the left, says, “It will be a great place to unwind and get a little exercise.” The property is unusually steep, with forest, rock, hill, ledges, and

some artifacts of an older time in this former industrial area. The

Stickney family owned property there, and our working name for the property is Stickney Hill. The public has been “voting” on a name for this acreage — other names suggested have been: Pleasant Street Preserve, Corbins Woods, Gene Pitney Lane, Rockville Nature Preserve, and Caroline’s Heartwood, which refers to author Caroline Stickney (1843-1920) who grew up nearby and whose fascinating memoir describes the area; the Stickney house is still visible from Pleasant Street, quite altered from when the family lived there. Readers are invited to “vote” for a name via email:

[info@manchesterlandtrust.org](mailto:info@manchesterlandtrust.org).



*Oddly shaped polygon in center shows property location.*

### “Heads Up! Hartford”

The Land Trust has benefited from the work of Heads Up! Hartford, “a faith-based group of urban and suburban youths, along with adult advisors, who get



together for a week every summer and weekends through the year to build communities, through promotion of diversity, developing leadership, and providing

community service.” Our popular picnic tables at Case Mountain and Risley Park, along with several sturdy benches, came from this unique organization. Pictured above, Steve Kimble and Janice Diminico enjoy a picnic at the Case Parklet. Thanks to Doug MacGillvary and crew for obtaining these benches.

### Salter’s Pond walk

Come enjoy a free hike Saturday, August 26 at 1:00 p.m. on the loop trail at Salter's Pond, starting at the parking lot of Salter's pool, Lydall St. (across from intersection of Lydall St. and Coleman Road), Manchester -- plenty of parking. One-mile scenic loop



trail created by volunteers. Salter’s Pond got its name from Lorenzo T. Salter who, in partnership with Mr. Strong, founded the Salter and Strong paper mill, which became Lydall paper mill. Many North End residents learned to swim at Salter’s Pond before the town

swimming pool was built. In the 1950s, cows grazed in the meadow of the farm across the pond. When we lead walks there, we often see neighbors on the trail, fishing, or sitting on a bench to enjoy the view.

### Kindness of strangers

Thank you, random helpers! This couple was caught in the act of volunteering to pick up trash at Risley Park. Many folks we know bring along a plastic bag when hiking, to pick up trash along the trail. This particular couple re-uses plastic bags which otherwise would have gone into the trash.



### Land donation

Eva Waite, widow of Crosby Waite, donated a 0.7-acre building lot at 120 Bush Hill Rd. to the Trust in April 2015. We accepted the gift with a plan to sell it, as not contiguous to any of our parks. We therefore paid Town taxes on the lot for over a year, until director Dick Borden succeeded in getting a buyer. The Trust sold it for a net of \$19,135.51 in December 2016. Dick donated the amount of his commission. Thank you, Eva and Dick!



### Annual dinner meeting

The 2016 annual dinner meeting was held in the former Frank Cheney, Jr., mansion at 20 Hartford Rd., Manchester. About 50 guests attended. After a catered buffet dinner, there were annual reports, election of board members, and a fascinating program about the Heritage Farm in Bolton, presented by Bolton Land Trust members Gwen Marrion and Brent Mayerson. Among those attending was founding member Dr. Fred Spaulding, pictured above. See invitation to the May 20, 2017 dinner meeting on page 3 of this newsletter.



May 19, 2016 annual dinner.



Manchester Land Conservation Trust Inc.  
20 Hartford Road  
Manchester, CT 06040



MANCHESTER LAND CONSERVATION TRUST

FOUNDED 1972

Phone: 860-643-1823

Email: [info@manchesterlandtrust.org](mailto:info@manchesterlandtrust.org)

Website: [www.manchesterlandtrust.org](http://www.manchesterlandtrust.org)

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Scan this QR code with your smart  
phone to go to our website.

**Property & donations** — The Manchester Land Conservation Trust owns 450 acres of land in Manchester, Andover, Bolton, East Hartford, Glastonbury, and Vernon. See our website *Properties* page for details. At right, Risley Pond at sunset — part of our largest park and a popular hiking location with a section of the Connecticut Forest & Park Association's Blue Trail, and many rocky crags and fern-filled bogs. (*Risley photo by member Cynthia Barlow*)

The Trust works to protect water resources, habitat, and animal, bird, and plant life in the Trust's natural surroundings. On parcels of sufficient size, the Trust supports passive recreation: hiking, biking, snowshoeing, fishing, bird watching, and other outdoor activities. It's YOU, our members and supporters, who make this happen. Donate any time via the Join/Donate link on the left-hand side of our website [www.manchesterlandtrust.org](http://www.manchesterlandtrust.org). Interested in donating land? Please contact the Trust's President, Malcolm F. Barlow, at 860-646-4081, or Director Terry Parla at 860-643-1823. We welcome the opportunity to provide information to potential donors about the benefits of giving land to the Trust.

**Board meetings** — The Board of Directors meets at 7:00 p.m. on the third Thursday of January, February, March, April, June, September, October, and November at our rented office at 20 Hartford Road, Manchester. These are business meetings in which we make decisions and assign tasks. The public is always welcome. Check the website or phone Terry Parla 860-643-1823 to confirm the meeting time.

**Property helpers sought** — Can you take charge of some snow-shoveling, lawn-mowing, or invasive-plant removal? Call Terry Parla 860-643-1823 and she will link you up with a property and a steward.

