

# THE AUSBON SARGENT LAND PRESERVATION TRUST

*Helping to Preserve the Rural Landscape of the Mt. Kearsarge/Ragged/Lake Sunapee Region*  
Andover, Bradford, Danbury, Goshen, Grantham, New London, Newbury, Springfield, Sunapee, Sutton, Warner & Wilmot



# Chatter



WINTER 2019



*“Together We Thrive”*



## From the *Executive Director*:

I don't get away from my desk as often as I probably should, but know that when I go out on Ausbon Sargent properties, I come back to the office energized and more focused. Fortunately for me, I get to enjoy Ausbon Sargent properties as I drive to and from work along Burpee Hill Road. Several conserved properties lend themselves to spectacular views no matter what time of year. Whether it is early morning light, snow-covered trees, cows dotting the landscape or brilliant sunsets, the view is soothing and provides a comforting sense of place.

Because of your support, we have now protected 11,481 acres, comprising 147 properties and over 8.5 miles of shore frontage. 2019 is expected to be another busy year for the land trust. Often times it takes years to protect an important piece of land. We anticipate finalizing a conservation easement on a 1,200-acre parcel in Bradford/Hillsborough that has been in the works for three years. Several other projects ranging from 24 acres to 385 acres are underway and going through the due-diligence process.

Each time the land trust protects a property, either by owning it or by holding a conservation easement, Ausbon Sargent assumes a stewardship commitment to those conserved properties, forever. While trained volunteers walk borders and document property conditions, stewardship work is supported by staff expertise, property maintenance, aerial monitoring and, occasionally, outside legal counsel.

This year we will be preparing for accreditation renewal through the Land Trust Accreditation Commission by conducting an assessment of all policies and procedures. The renewal application will be submitted February 2020. Why should we renew? Accreditation confirms compliance with best practices and helps ensure permanence of conservation projects. It makes Ausbon Sargent a stronger organization and, in turn, builds public trust. Foundations and public agencies factor accreditation into their funding and partnering decisions.

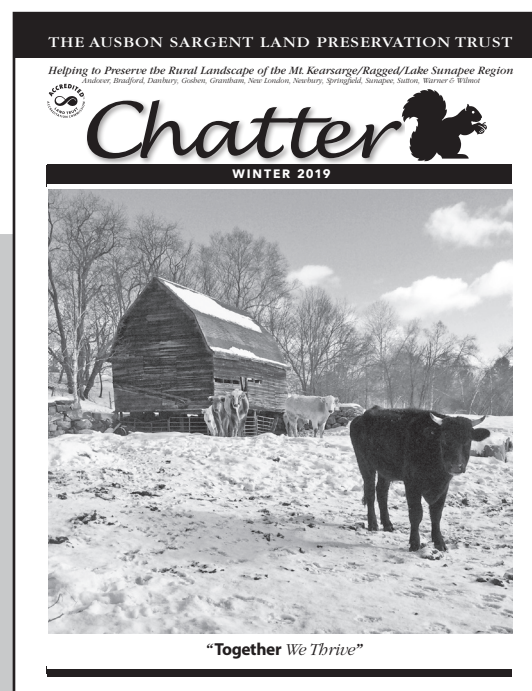
Ausbon Sargent counts on the support of members and partners.  
Every gift makes something good happen!

Thank you,

*Debbie Stanley*

## ABOUT THE COVER

The photo on the cover represents the 46.6-acre Patten Conservation Easement in Springfield. The successful conservation of the Patten property is truly an example of our Winter *Chatter* theme of "Together We Thrive." Friends and community members raised funds, and partners including the Bafflin Foundation, Burton D. Morgan Foundation, Fields Pond Foundation, and the Springfield Conservation Commission assisted. Ausbon Sargent received grant assistance from the NH Fish and Game through monies received from the US Fish and Wildlife Service Wildlife Restoration Fund. The Patten property was also protected with assistance from LCHIP and the "Moose Plate" Grant Program. As per easement requirements, it will be monitored annually and stewarded forever by Ausbon Sargent, and, of course, we thank the Patten family for their diligent management of their property. *Cover photo by Andy Deegan*



# Together We Thrive

by Peggy Hutter

"Ahhh, it's a crazy world out there," we hear people say. And there seems to be a lot of truth to that statement. The news reports can paint a pretty concerning portrait. Through it all, some businesses seem to be managing quite well, while others seem to be struggling at this time.

As I was doing some research for this *Chatter* article on our theme of "Together We Thrive,"

***I came across this simple graphic and it got me thinking...***

Each of these conditions certainly falls on the positive side of middle and indicates an increasing degree of success. I considered what each of these terms on the graphic suggests to me and then what they might reflect in a business.

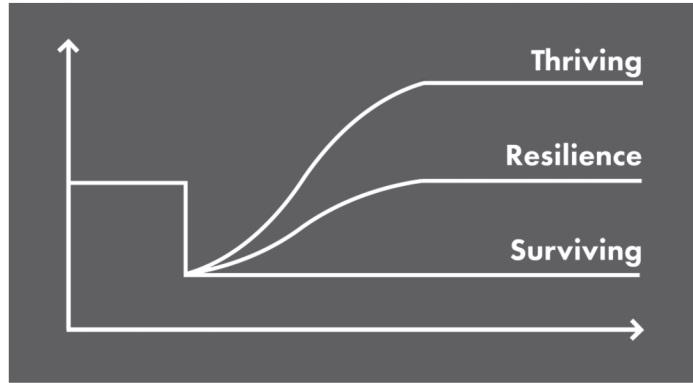
"Surviving" indicates to me that I'm still "here to tell the story," but the quality of my life might be compromised as I try to "keep my head above water." A business that is just surviving may have lost its competitive edge in a world of big box stores and online services.

If I am "Resilient," some synonyms like "resistant", "buoyant" and "quick to recover" come to mind. "Resilience" is certainly a better place to be in than "Surviving." It implies to me that, in business as well as life, we have faced the odds, but have been strong enough to "hold our own" against the forces that could unsettle us.

"Thriving," however, indicates strength, growth and progress. When the pediatrician tells me that my baby is thriving, I'm thrilled, envisioning a healthy future for my child. When a business is thriving, its Profit and Loss sheet is "in the black." It has a strong strategic plan with initiatives in place that help the business to remain competitive in its market.

In all three of these situations, "Surviving", "Resilience" and "Thriving," there are obstacles to face and surmount. It seems that having the foresight to predict these obstacles and making a plan to create a better outcome can make all the difference. "Thriving" takes place when we anticipate and we innovate to manage the challenges we might inevitably face.

And now I consider my employer, the Ausbon Sargent Land Preservation Trust. The daily news reports are no different for Ausbon Sargent; economic and political challenges are present for Ausbon Sargent just as they are for other businesses and for all of us. And yet, I see Ausbon Sargent as "Thriving." And that got me thinking... why?



Benefit Mindset.com

Ausbon Sargent characterizes the concept of anticipating and innovating through its strong and clear strategic plan. This foresight allows it to manage the challenges that it faces. The land trust is deliberate and focused in its mission to preserve the rural landscape of the Mt. Kearsarge/Ragged/Lake Sunapee area. It has a realistic understanding of its reach and capability. Ausbon

Sargent recognizes that it can't right the world. However, by focusing and working so diligently on the local level, following its strong mission and strategic plan and engaging the talents of its 200 volunteers and 1000+ members, The Ausbon Sargent Land Preservation Trust is thriving and making a difference to those living and recreating in our region. "Thriving" in this case, is working to make things great at the level you can control. In our 12-town region we find so much support for the work we do. We thank you all as we consider the reasons why our mission is so important and how, without a doubt,

***"Together We Thrive."***

*Peggy Hutter began working part time for Ausbon Sargent in 2011, after she retired from her 36-year teaching career. One of the qualities that both of her careers share is that they each have a strong mission that has the potential to positively impact so many. Peggy and her husband, Bob, live and recreate in Elkins.*



***A snowshoe hike on the Cline property in Andover.***

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## ***Evolving Stewardship***

*by Andy Deegan*

When Ausbon Sargent closes a conservation project, it is an exciting time. New conserved acreage means that together Ausbon Sargent and the landowner have increased the amount of permanently protected wildlife habitat, water resources, and scenic landscapes in our region. The closing also marks a transition from working with the landowner to protect these resources to working with the landowner to ensure the terms of the conservation easement are upheld.

Of the 147 properties that Ausbon Sargent has protected, only five are owned in fee by Ausbon Sargent. Most of the remainder, excluding the properties owned by towns or other conservation organizations, are owned by private individuals. Landowners who have worked to place a conservation easement on their property typically understand and support the terms of the easement. However, private ownership can present challenges because the current owner will not own the property forever, and we will eventually be working with individuals who may not be familiar with the easement on their property. Ausbon Sargent must work closely with landowners to ensure that there are no developments or changes on the property that could lead to violations.

Ausbon Sargent is lucky to have a dedicated group of volunteers who monitor our easement properties on an annual basis. Part of this monitoring includes a conversation with the landowners that includes questions about their future management goals for the property. In addition, the volunteers ask the landowner if they have plans to sell the property in the coming year. If the answer is “yes,” we know that we should keep an eye out for potential listings for that property in the future. When an easement property is listed for sale, Ausbon Sargent reaches out to the listing real estate agents to let them know that there is a conservation easement on the property and that we are available to answer any questions a potential buyer may have. Typically, we sit down with the realtor and/or the potential buyer to review details and answer questions about the conservation easement. During this meeting, we will also discuss the monitoring process for the property so that the new landowner will be prepared for monitoring visits. These steps are critical to ensuring a smooth stewardship transition on a conservation property.

No one wants a new owner of an easement property to have a violation on their property because of a misunderstanding or due to unfamiliarity with the easement. Working closely with successive generations of easement landowners to ensure that they understand what they can and cannot do on their property is the key to preventing unintended violations. The Ausbon Sargent stewardship staff and volunteers work hard to communicate with landowners every year, and uphold the conservation values of our protected lands.

*Andy Deegan is the Land Protection Specialist and Stewardship Manager for Ausbon Sargent. He earned his law degree from the Vermont Law School and practiced law in Essex, Vermont before joining Ausbon Sargent in 2008. Andy lives in New London with his wife and their two children.*



***George Beaton, Kathleen Bigford and Scott MacLean help to monitor the Bradford Aiken Town Forest.***

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## ***Ausbon Sargent's Monitoring Responsibilities Continue to Grow***

*by Sue Andrews*

With 147 properties on the books right now, as you can imagine, monitoring all of them at least once a year has become a formidable task. Luckily, we have a great group of over 100 volunteers who help with this job. When there are properties they can't get to, Andy or I must abandon our computers for an afternoon, put on our hiking boots and head out to the woods! It's hard, but sometimes it has to be done!

After all that hiking is over, there is another task that looms. All the reports have to be read, saved digitally, a hard copy filed in our notebooks, and a copy mailed to the landowner with a letter sharing that our obligation to monitor their property has been fulfilled. This year we tapped one of our volunteers extraordinaire, Barbara Faughnan, to help with the filing of all this material. She has saved many staff hours by doing this somewhat mundane, but nevertheless very important, job. Our accreditation status depends on all this paperwork being filed completely and properly. Many thanks to Barbara for helping us make sure our monitoring program complies with the accreditation regulations!

***If you're interested in becoming an easement monitor, contact Sue Andrews or Andy Deegan.***

*Sue Andrews is the Operations Manager and Assistant Stewardship Manager for Ausbon Sargent. Sue and her husband, Dave, have lived in Elkins for 30 years.*

## Your County Forester and You

By Kristy Heath

Ausbon Sargent's service region includes towns within both Merrimack and Sullivan counties. Each county has a forester employed by UNH Cooperative Extension to lend expertise to the citizens of their respective county, at no charge. The forester's advice and recommendations are invaluable to landowners who may have questions about their forests, ranging from woodlot and wildlife management to timber harvests.

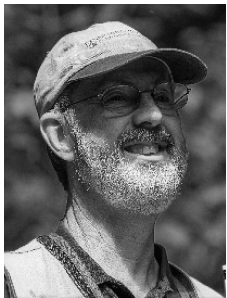
**Dode Gladders** is the forester for Sullivan County. As a child, he spent a lot of time outside hiking and backpacking. As he grew older, he realized that jobs existed that involved working outside, and he was



sold. He went to forestry school in Georgia and spent a long time working in the Pacific Northwest and mid-Atlantic before moving to New Hampshire in 2013 where he began working as the Sullivan County Extension Forester. Dode shared that people appreciate the impartial advice that the foresters offer; the foresters don't stand to benefit if the landowners do (or don't do) what is recommended. He explained that part of his job is to get landowners connected with resources

such as cost-share opportunities, consulting foresters and loggers. They advise on subjects like current use, the NH Tree Farm Program, and forestry laws. County Foresters also partner with other groups to put together workshops and educational events covering different forestry-related topics.

**Tim Fleury** is the forester for Merrimack County. He also grew up in the outdoors and always had an interest in the natural world. The field of forestry was an obvious attraction to him and, in 1983, he received his degree from the University of Massachusetts. After graduating, Tim entered the Peace Corps and spent 2.5 years in the Dominican Republic working with local communities on reforestation projects where he learned firsthand how humans can impact the natural world and its resources. After leaving the Peace Corps, he worked in southeast Alaska, western New England, West Virginia, and Connecticut. Upon earning a Master's degree from the University of Minnesota in 1995, Tim settled in



New Hampshire and began working for UNH Cooperative Extension in Merrimack County. Tim noted that something citizens appreciate is that the foresters are available to visit them on-site. Foresters are very much ground-based and can provide essential details for informed decision-making about their unique properties. He added that the foresters are also knowledgeable and supportive of land protection and thinking ahead to the long-term management of the land.

If you find yourself with questions about your trees, woodlot, or the wildlife in your area, we urge you to take advantage of the wonderful resource available to you as a citizen of Merrimack or Sullivan counties. Dode Gladders (Sullivan County) can be reached at: 863-9200 or [dode.gladders@unh.edu](mailto:dode.gladders@unh.edu). Tim Fleury (Merrimack County) can be reached at: 796-2151 or [tim.fleury@unh.edu](mailto:tim.fleury@unh.edu).

For more information on how your county forester can be of service to you, contact [extension.unh.edu](http://extension.unh.edu).

*Kristy Heath has lived in the region all her life, growing up in Grantham, and after college, she lived in both Warner and Springfield. Kristy and her family enjoy exploring different campgrounds throughout NH, VT and ME. She loves the quiet and beauty that nature offers and enjoys spending time in the outdoors.*

## The Ausbon Sargent Land Preservation Trust Receives the Prestigious Land Ethic for Tomorrow Award

On Thursday, December 6, 2018 the Ausbon Sargent Land Preservation Trust (ASLPT) was awarded by the New Hampshire Land Surveyors Association (NHLSA) the 2018 Land Ethic for Tomorrow Award. Since 1990, the NHLSA has been presenting their annual Land Ethic for Tomorrow Award. This award "recognizes an individual, company or government agency who has made unique and significant land-use decisions based upon accurate and complete land information gathered and used in an advanced and innovative manner."

NHLSA includes licensed land surveyors and their employees, land information practitioners, students, and others with special interest in or knowledge of the profession of land surveying. The Association strives to support the profession and its members by creating a professional environment in which to operate.

ASLPT is very proud to accept this award and is especially honored by the inscription on the plaque that NHLSA presented. It reads, "In recognition of your remarkable conservation successes over three decades and your preeminence in New Hampshire's patchwork of land trusts."

As Debbie Stanley, Executive Director of the land trust shared in her acceptance remarks, "Ausbon Sargent has always had a professional relationship with surveyors, ensuring that every land transaction is technically sound. To maintain due diligence in our work, we require a recorded survey for each property we conserve."



**Doug Burnell presents the Land Ethic for Tomorrow Award to Ausbon Sargent Chair, Frances Harris and Executive Director, Debbie Stanley.**

Photo by Tori Mann

# *The Quality of Place*

by Laurie DiClerico

Photo by Lee Morrill



*Main Street Meadow, New London.*

The Ausbon Sargent Land Preservation Trust has been fundamental in preserving the rural character of the Mt. Kearsarge/Ragged/Lake Sunapee Region for more than 30 years. But how has its success in protecting nearly 11,500 acres influenced the decision by newcomers to relocate to the area? Do local realtors convey the many attributes of the area including beautiful vistas, clean air and water to prospective buyers and do the buyers respond positively to this “quality of place,” the character of our area that makes it uniquely attractive?

I asked several realtors in New London to share with me how the quality of life and our protected lands influence those who are considering a move to the area. Marilyn Kidder, Owner/Broker of Better Homes and Gardens-Milestone Real Estate forwarded an article to me that she had written several years ago for the *Kearsarge Magazine* titled “How Lucky We Are” in which she emphasized that “this area of New Hampshire truly benefits from some of the most beautiful natural advantages and scenic bounty. Several large crystal-clear lakes along with many smaller lakes and ponds entice swimmers, boaters, skaters and ice fishermen. The surrounding forested mountains welcome skiers, hikers, birders and explorers.”

From a realtor’s perspective, Marilyn also observes, “As time has passed and more and more development has occurred in the southern part of the state and much of the rest of New England, New York and New Jersey, summer and winter vacationers are not the only ones considering making the Dartmouth-Lake Sunapee area home.” She adds that not only do folks choose to retire to our area, but we now see more and more young professionals and working families looking for homes; some choose to live here even though they may travel for work outside of the area.

When I reached out to Pam Perkins, Owner/Broker of Four Seasons Sotheby’s International Realty, she responded with a very passionate reply to my questions. Please enjoy Pam’s observations:

“I am a 4th generation New London native and can look back on a childhood that included riding ponies on graveled roads all over New London. As a young Realtor in the 1980’s I recall the development of many local neighborhoods and condominium projects. As my career developed and I had an opportunity to work with property owners who

were generally seeking to maximize the value of their properties, I also became aware that the beauty of our region depended on a balance of responsible development and respect for the natural beauty of our surroundings. When the Ausbon Sargent Land



Photo credit unknown

**Shelly Ward, Pam Perkins and Ashley Perkins participating in the Ausbon Sargent Bike-A-Thon in 1997.**

Preservation Trust was founded we were all so impressed that Ausbon W. Sargent, a maintenance worker at Colby-Sawyer College, took the initiative and felt compelled to offer his life savings to preserve the New London Town Green from development. I wish he could see the lasting impact his act of generosity has created in providing a beautiful central location for concerts, fairs, and children’s recreation! When my daughters were young, we participated in an ASLPT organized bike-a-thon to raise funds for the Main Street Meadow in New London. My daughters grew up thinking that their involvement in that bike ride did, indeed, “save that field,” a key gateway to town and a view countless passersby will continue to enjoy forever.

*Continued to the next page*

*Continued from page 6*

"Over the years I have been fortunate to introduce many new residents to the New London/Lake Sunapee region. Many arrive having made an effort to understand our area by studying information available online. Without exception, I've had people share that they are unprepared for the stunning views, our majestic forests, the undulating fields and gorgeous lakes and ponds that our area offers throughout the region. As I guide potential buyers on familiarization tours, I always weave in stories of the various land parcels that have been forever protected, thanks to the generosity of many community members and the dedicated staff at the Ausbon Sargent Land Preservation Trust. The land trust has protected 11,481 acres in this region, an everlasting legacy contributing balance and beauty for generations to come. Please join me in thanking Ausbon Sargent and the many generous property owners who have made contributions of time, effort and finances to ensure our way of life!"

Marilyn and Pam are proud to familiarize new buyers with our area. They both confirm that the 147 projects that the Ausbon Sargent Land Preservation Trust has completed enhance the "quality of place" in the region.

*Laurie DiClerico has been a longtime resident of New London. She worked at Ausbon Sargent for nearly 15 years as the Development Associate and continues to serve on the Development Committee. Now that she is retired, Laurie and her husband, Joe, are enjoying their time traveling and spending time with their 3-year old twin granddaughters.*

Photo by Peggy Hutter



***The Brown Family with Doug Lyon, Debbie Stanley and Andy Deegan at the October 25th property closing.***

### ***Kind thoughts from the Brown family:***

"A big Thank You to the Ausbon Sargent Land Preservation Trust board and members in making our dream come to fruition in preserving the Frazier Brook Farm for wildlife and the public to enjoy forever. The time and effort by all in achieving this goal is gratefully appreciated."

Sincerely,

*Carol Brown Howard, Allan and Betty Brown,  
Nathan Brown and Beth Sletten*

## **Property News:**

### **Ausbon Sargent is currently working on several projects in our 12-town region.**

These projects are in the towns of Grantham, Bradford, Danbury, Warner and Sutton and, when these projects are complete, it will add over 2,000 acres of conservation land to our region. These properties protect valuable wildlife habitat, working lands, water resources and many will allow for low impact public recreation. Keep an eye out for future updates regarding project closings.

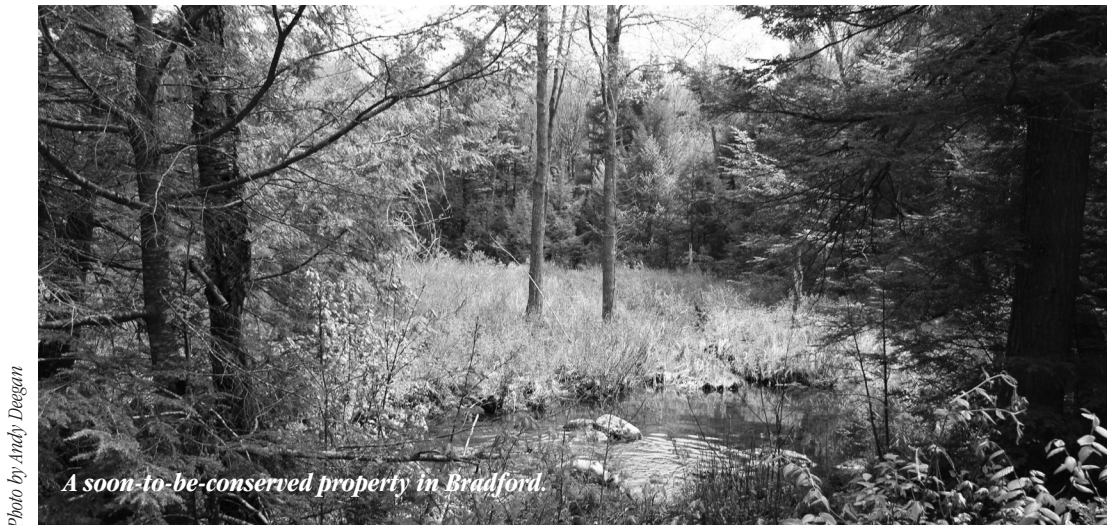


Photo by Andy Deegan

***A soon-to-be-conserved property in Bradford.***



# *The Ausbon Sargent Land Preservation Trust* *Gifts, Thank Yous & Land/Easement Donors*



*We only print the list of our Membership and Annual Fund donations once a year, in the summer issue of Chatter.*

*If you have any questions concerning your membership status please call Operations Manager, Sue Andrews at 526-6555 or email sandrews@ausbonsargent.org*

## **CORPORATE MATCHING GIFTS**

GE Foundation  
Pfizer  
Shell Oil Co. Foundation

## **GRANTS**

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Burton D. Morgan Foundation  
George F. and Sybil H. Fuller Foundation  
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## **NH CHARITABLE FOUNDATION FUNDS**

Barrette Family Fund

## **IN KIND DONATIONS**

The Country Press and Kearsarge Shopper  
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PCCHelp  
Susan Nooney, CPA

## **IN HONOR OF TOM BREWER'S BIRTHDAY**

Don and Mary-Lou Hinman

## **IN HONOR OF MARIA RIEDERS**

Bill and Betty Stockwell

## **IN MEMORY OF SUE CLOUGH**

Jay and Nancy Davis

## **IN MEMORY OF SUSAN HAYNA**

Joe and Kathy Carroll

## **ENFORCEMENT FUND DONATIONS**

Town of New London Conservation Commission

## **STEWARDSHIP FUND**

### **DONATIONS**

Joseph and Laurie DiClerico  
Town of New London Conservation Commission

## **MARILYN KIDDER AND THE STAFF AT BETTER HOMES AND GARDENS MILESTONE REAL ESTATE**

*(for donating a portion of their sales commissions to Ausbon Sargent)*

Anne Marie Appel  
Kim Armen  
Emily Campbell  
Donna Forest  
Sharon LaVigne  
Chris Murray McKee  
Judy Merrill  
Susie Moore  
Jane Snow  
Sonja Torkelsen  
Joan Wallen

## **SPONSORSHIP OF FULL PAGE AD IN KEARSARGE SHOPPER**

Yankee Barn Homes

## **WE WOULD ALSO LIKE TO THANK**

Nick Andrews for shredding documents  
The Center for the Arts for co-hosting the Naturally New England Art Show  
Betsy Forsham for proofing easement deeds  
Al Golden and the Town Planner Calendar  
The Livery, Sunapee, for the use of the building for the Art Show  
The Kearsarge Shopper for all they do for us  
Lee Morrill, On Track Design for graphic design and advertising  
The New Hampshire Cycling Club for donating 100% of the proceeds from the Kearsarge Klassic Bike Event  
Roland Peer for the VDAC Car donation  
Katie Potter for recycling

## **EVENT COORDINATORS**

Jon Bellis  
Ruth Collins  
Kate Gordon  
Ginny Gwynn  
Debbie Lang  
Kiki and Dan Schneider

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Abbott Library  
Lake Sunapee Region Young Professionals Network

## **HIKE HOSTS**

Nate Byfield  
Eryn Bagley and Willy Newhall  
Nate Brown and Family  
Star Lake Farm  
Town of Sunapee Conservation Commission  
Town of Sutton Conservation Commission

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Lisa and David Andrews  
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Debbie Lang  
Betsy Lyons

Diane Robbins  
Joyce Saturley  
Dan Schneider  
Debbie Stanley  
Patsy Stevenson  
Suzanne and Harry Tether  
Wild Goose Farm  
Rowena Wilks  
Bonnie Wilson

## **OFFICE VOLUNTEERS**

Barbara Faughnan and Kathy Walker for volunteering in the office on a regular basis

## **PROOF READERS FOR THE WINTER CHATTER**

Marla Binzel  
Anne Carroll  
Julie Deacon  
Andrea DeAugustinis  
Nan Kaplan  
Alice Perry  
Helen Tucker

## **SEYMOUR AND SEYMOUR HELPERS**

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Annie, Bee and Jenny Chambers  
Larry Dufault  
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Suzanne Tether

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Debbie Chrisman  
Laura Beth Foster  
Joan Gould  
Kristy Heath  
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Susan Showalter  
Debbie Stanley

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Susan Giaccotto  
Kate Gordon  
Cynthia Hayes  
Janet Howe

## **HOLIDAY PARTY SUPPORTERS**

The Coach House Restaurant at the New London Inn  
Robert Jensen Floral Design

## **FOOD DONATIONS TO THE HOLIDAY PARTY**

74 Main  
Sue Andrews  
Kathleen Belko

Photo by Ginny Gwynn



*Thanks to the Brown Family of Warner for hosting an Ausbon Sargent summer bike.*

Marla Binzel  
Blue Loon Bakery  
Bubba's Bar and Grill  
Ruth Cave  
Debbie Chrisman  
Andy Deegan  
Laura Beth Foster  
Joan Gould  
Kristy Heath  
Henry's at the Club  
Peggy Hutter  
Lyon Brook  
Betsy Lyons  
Pleasant Lake Cheesecake Company  
Sue Showalter  
Debbie Stanley  
Sunapee Cove  
Wicked Sweet Cakes and Treats  
Woodcrest Village

#### 2018 EASEMENT MONITORS

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Sue Andrews  
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#### Land & Easement Donors

*Our sincere appreciation to those who share their passion for natural places through land and easement donations.*  
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Judith M. Oates  
Otter Pond Protective Association  
Dr. Edward C. Parkhurst\* and Loren B. Sjostrom\*

Photo by Peter Bloch



**Andy Deegan led a hike through the Webb/Crowell Forest in Sutton.**

Dr.\* and Mrs.\* Edward C. Parkhurst  
Malcolm, Dallas\* and Mabel Patten  
Thomas and Janet Paul  
Pelfor Corporation  
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Marcia Wright  
Sarah Yerkes  
Marjorie Young\*  
Steven\* and Susan Youngs

\*denotes deceased

Photo by Sheridan Brown



**Laura Nagy shows the dragonfly that landed on her hand during the Dragonfly Event in July on the Willy Newball and Eryn Bagley property in Grantham.**

Photo by Peggy Hutter



**Each spring, Ausbon Sargent hosts a Volunteer Recognition Party at the Knowlton House in Sunapee Harbor to thank its 200+ volunteers.**

## Meet Ausbon Sargent's New Trustees!



### **TRUSTEES (L-R)**

*Steve Root, Mike Quinn, Debbie Lang, Lisa Andrews and Aimee Ayers.*

***We are happy to introduce Ausbon Sargent's newest board members, voted in at the 2018 Annual Meeting. We consciously seek qualified candidates to serve on our board, and make sure that their background and skills are a good match with Ausbon Sargent and our mission. It is always interesting to hear why new trustees became interested in the land trust. Here's what they had to say:***

**STEVE ROOT**, Attorney and Compensation Consultant, said he “jumped at the chance to join the Board of Trustees at Ausbon Sargent, for two main reasons: the mission and the people. We live in a beautiful place, peaceful, rural, scenic and wild. It is also fragile, and all of its finest qualities can be lost through inattention. Ausbon Sargent is a group effort, and clearly one of the most effective ones, to protect what makes our communities and region one of the finest places to live, work and play anywhere. More than that, in my 30 years in New London I have made good friends, and many of them have put their talents and energy to work for Ausbon Sargent, as staff, volunteers, and trustees. Working alongside them to accomplish something of value today and forever is an opportunity and an honor.”

**MIKE QUINN**, our new Treasurer, recently retired as CFO of PathWays of the River Valley, a New Hampshire non-profit serving individuals with developmental disabilities and acquired brain disabilities. He said “I first became aware of Ausbon Sargent when I became its neighbor. We bought a house on Murray Pond Road, next to the Evergreen Point property and knowing that our backyard was not going to be developed

was a big plus in our decision. New London is an active place with great outdoor resources. Ausbon Sargent is an important part of that. I recently retired, and keeping engaged and actively participating in my community has always been important to me. So when my friend Steve Allenby made the connection for me to Ausbon Sargent's Finance Committee, it was a natural fit. I'm very pleased to be able to play a role in this fine organization's contribution to this beautiful area.”

**DEBBIE LANG**, a retired financial advisor, said she has wonderful memories of vacationing in this special part of New Hampshire over many summers as a child. “Shortly after moving to Sutton in 2012, I started volunteering with Ausbon Sargent by monitoring, helping at the bike event and summer hikes, and assisting in the office with mailings. I was continually impressed with how well-run the organization is and how important Ausbon Sargent is to all the towns in the Mt. Kearsarge/Ragged/ Lake Sunapee area. Also, it's been a really fun group of people to get to know.”

**LISA ANDREWS** earned her MBA in Finance from New York University and has been a full-time resident in Sunapee since 2014. She grew up in suburbs all around the country and spent the 10 years before moving to New Hampshire in highly congested areas. “Eight years in Southern California and two years in Manhattan made me feel increasingly trapped in terms of my ability to get out and enjoy the outdoors. In my time here I have come to appreciate what makes this part of New England so unique; the open spaces and the beautiful wilderness that is so unlike the suburban sprawl in other parts of the country. I first heard about Ausbon Sargent when my neighbor asked me to host the dessert portion of the progressive dinner several years ago. I began to meet the members, understand the mission and came to see how well-run the organization is. I had been considering my volunteer options for the last several years and, over time, Ausbon Sargent rose to the top of my list as a group that I would like to participate in more actively.”

**AIMEE AYERS** has summered on Lake Sunapee all her life and has lived in the area full time for 15 years. She lives in Sutton with her husband and three children ages 14, 13 and 9. Aimee earned her BS from UVM in Environmental Studies and her MA from Tufts University in Environmental Policy and Planning. She hopes her knowledge of the area, personal interest in land conservation, and education will help her to be a positive addition to the Ausbon Sargent Board. Aimee currently serves on the Ausbon Sargent Lands Committee and volunteers at the Outing Club, Mount Sunapee Area Ski Club, LSPA, and the Lake Sunapee Yacht Club. Aimee shared her motivation for joining the Ausbon Sargent board: “I wanted to get more involved in giving my time to organizations that really mean something to me personally and Ausbon Sargent is a perfect fit”!



**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (L-R)**

*Treasurer Mike Quinn, Chair Frances Harris, Secretary Joe DiClerico and Vice Chair Jeff Hollinger.*



*Star Lake Farm Managers Todd and Kathy Richardson and Forester Jeffrey Snitkin (center) at the 29th Tree Farm Field Day where Star Lake Farm was awarded the 2018 NH Outstanding Tree Farmers of the Year Award.*

**Get your ASLPT Items Here!**

*Many of you have expressed a desire to purchase an Ausbon Sargent vest, jacket, or hat. Well, here's your chance! From February 17th through March 3rd we will have an online marketplace open which will allow you to do just that! Visit [www.ausbonsargent.org](http://www.ausbonsargent.org) for the link starting February 17th, or better yet, sign up for our email list to get notified when the link is ready. Shipping arrangements may be made if necessary and items will ship directly from our vendor, who will apply standard shipping charges. Happy shopping!*

**Participate in our Market Study –  
Help us Preserve the Beauty of our Region**

If you are reading this issue of *Chatter*, chances are good that you live within, or have a connection to, the Mt. Kearsarge/Ragged/Lake Sunapee Region. We want to hear from you! Every five years, Ausbon Sargent conducts a market study, which helps us understand how the public views land conservation in our region. In a public, online survey we will ask participants to share their thoughts on conservation, our region, and the Ausbon Sargent Land Preservation Trust. In the coming months, watch your inbox for an online survey. With your help, we will learn what we are doing right and what we can do better. Please take a moment to participate in the survey and help us continue our mission to preserve the rural landscape of the Mt. Kearsarge/Ragged/Lake Sunapee Region.

**Not on our email list?**

**Sign up for chance to win a free gift bag!**

We need to hear from members and nonmembers alike in the survey, so we need your email address. Anyone who joins our email list in February or March, will be entered into a drawing for an Ausbon Sargent tote bag filled with goodies.

*Join our mailing list!*

*Visit [Ausbonsargent.org](http://Ausbonsargent.org)*

*Click on "Join Our Mailing List"*



*In celebration of Sunapee's 250th anniversary, Sue Andrews led a hike on the Frank Simpson Reserve, one of Ausbon Sargent's protected properties.*

---

## ***Ticks are Killing Our Baby Moose***

*by Peggy Hutter*



***A moose calf show signs of the winter tick infestation on her coat.***

---

New England has always cherished the iconic moose as a part of its northern culture. Travelers visit our area with hopes to catch a glimpse of their first real moose. With the moose population numbering around 70,000, it is realistic and natural to associate northern New England with thoughts of a moose plodding over a hillside or wading in a boggy area. But our changing weather seems to be threatening the future of these stately animals.

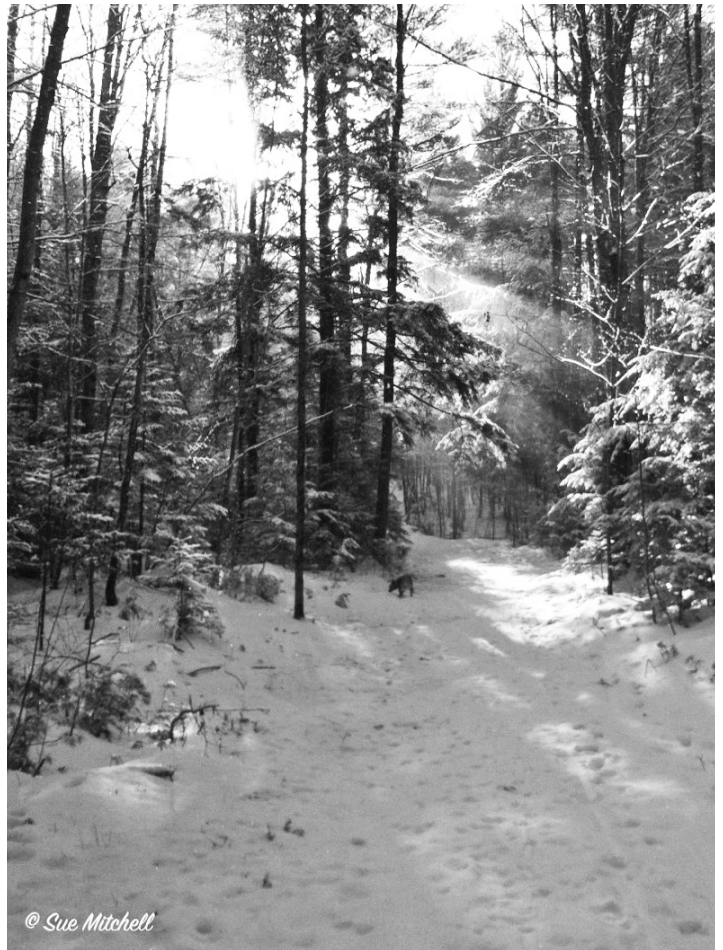
Moose calves are dying at alarming rates from the winter ticks that gorge themselves on a moose's blood during the fall and winter months. The changing weather pattern in northern New England has generally produced a longer fall with a more delayed winter, and an earlier arrival of spring.

The winter tick will lay its eggs on the ground in late May to early June. By September and October, the larvae begin to climb and adhere in clusters to vegetation at heights of about 4 feet waiting for a host to pass by that they can attach to. Since moose calves are generally born in May or June, they are actively moving about with their parents as the larvae are looking for hosts and they stand at a perfect height. Tens of thousands of ticks may attach to one animal. Each of these ticks will feed on the blood of the moose through the winter before detaching in the spring to carry on its life cycle.

Moose are a species of ungulates (pigs, cows, horses, deer, moose), basically, hoofed mammals. Though the winter ticks attack other species, the moose seem to be the most severely affected. One significant reason is that the moose don't react as well to the early stages of the tick infestation, perhaps due to their size, but more likely associated with their grooming habits. They aren't capable of

cleaning themselves in the way that other animals do, and by the time they recognize their plight, the ticks have imbedded too grossly for the moose to be able to remove them.

The tick infestation causes emaciation, anemia and severe blood loss. Researchers from the University of New Hampshire (UNH) have reported that winter ticks have been responsible for killing as many as 7 out of 10 moose calves over the course of their three-year study. The adult moose has a greater chance of survival; however, the weakened adult tends to be less productive. This refers to the number of calves produced per cow and the survival of those calves over time. Professor of wildlife ecology at UNH, Pete Pekins said, "Normally anything over a fifty percent death rate would concern us. At seventy percent, we are looking at a real problem and a decline in the moose population."



*© Sue Mitchell*

**"Something will have gone out of us as a people if we ever let the remaining wilderness be destroyed...We simply need that wild country available to us even if we never do more than drive to its edge and look in."**

*--Wallace Stegner, a 20th century novelist, environmentalist and historian*

## Coming Together Around the Table

by Kristy Heath



Photo by Debbie Stanley

***The Conservation Chairs from our 12-town region meet twice a year at the Ausbon Sargent office in New London.***

Each March and October, Conservation Commission (CC) chairs or representatives from our 12-town region are invited to attend a round table meeting at Ausbon Sargent. The goal of the meeting is to share ideas, advice, challenges and stories of success with each other. On average, the meetings draw representatives from 8 of the 12 towns in our region.

“We don’t have anyone else to talk to who understands the issues and things we deal with except the other CC chairs,” commented Mary Anne Broshek of Andover. Van Webb of Sunapee echoed this sentiment saying he is “struck by the fact that common themes are thrown about: ATV and 4-wheel drive use and the problems associated with them, and the issues around maintaining scenic trails and Class VI roads.” Commissioners get a sense that they are not alone in their struggles, but the meetings aren’t merely to focus on the negative. Dave Wood of Grantham found it helpful to learn about a mechanism called a “Beaver Deceiver” which allows beavers to build dams, but does not restrict the flow of the river or stream, preventing flooding. Bruce Allen of Springfield brought back an idea to his commission to request that building permits make note as to whether or not a property is subject to conservation easement restrictions.

The format of the round table meeting is fairly loose; the agenda is largely made up of topics of interest submitted by those who plan to attend and a light supper of soup or stew is provided. The meeting is facilitated by Ausbon Sargent’s Outreach Committee chair and/or Land Protection Specialist, Andy Deegan. At the conclusion of the meeting, Andy gives an update on recent happenings at Ausbon Sargent and questions are welcome.

We are fortunate to have such dedicated CC chairs and representatives in our region. Those serving in this capacity are volunteers who give their time freely to help maintain and protect their town’s woods, trails and watersheds for all to enjoy. Ausbon Sargent looks forward to more round table meetings, where the future of conservation in our region can be addressed.

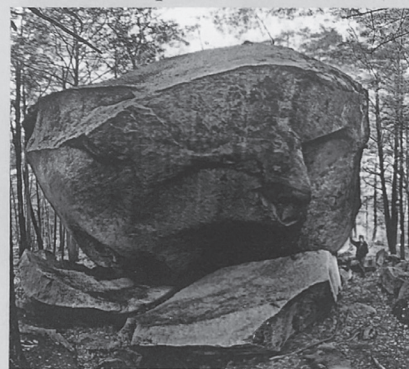
## Hike the Elkins Erratic Loop Trail

Glacial erratics are stones or rocks that were transported by a glacier, then left behind after the glacier melted. They can be carried for hundreds of miles and can range in size from small pebbles to house-sized boulders. Erratics differ from the size and type of rock that is native to the area in which it now rests, so they provide significant historical information for scientists to study.

Authors Jan and Christy Butler feature the Elkins Erratic Loop Trail in their book, *Erratic Wandering: An Explorer’s Hiking Guide to Astonishing Boulders in Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont*, published in 2018. This 1.75-mile trail is located on the Cook Conservation Easement, an Ausbon Sargent protected property, that can be accessed from the trail sign along Whitney Brook Road in Elkins. Thanks to David and Celeste Cook for creating the hiking trails on this interesting property and gifting the property to the Town of New London. You can find a trail map of the Cook Conservation Easement trails on the Ausbon Sargent website under “Connect with the Land.”

## Erratic Wandering

*An Explorer’s Hiking Guide to  
Astonishing Boulders in Maine,  
New Hampshire and Vermont*



**Jan & Christy Butler**

## THANK YOU

to Jim Owers and the NH Cycling Club  
for 7 Kearsarge Klassic Bike Events and an  
Average Annual Donation of \$8,000!



Photos by Peggy Hutter

**Steve Lavoie, Craig Schaepe, Jim Owers, Dan Morrissey  
and Brad Tanner**

In 2012, Ausbon Sargent member Jim Owers approached Debbie Stanley with a unique fundraising opportunity. Jim was on the board of the NH Cycling Club and an avid cyclist. He and his wife, Leslie Ludtke, own a home on Lake Sunapee and spend many hours enjoying rides on the back roads of the Mt. Kearsarge/Ragged/Lake Sunapee Region. Jim proposed partnering with Ausbon Sargent to create a scenic, back road, multi-route ride that would pass by many Ausbon Sargent protected properties and attract riders from many parts of New England. Jim and his team provided the brains and the engineering for the event and Ausbon Sargent made sure the riders were well-fed and the event received the appropriate publicity. At the end of each annual Kearsarge Klassic the NH Cycling Club presented a check to Ausbon Sargent for the entirety of the proceeds raised from the event. 2018 marked our final Kearsarge Klassic event.

Our September Kearsarge Klassic was always a great success, thanks to Jim and his team of enthusiastic cyclists. An additional asset for Ausbon Sargent is that, through the relationship that began with the bike event, Jim Owers agreed to join the Ausbon Sargent Board of Trustees.



## Calendar of Events

**We are in the process of planning events for 2019.**

Visit our website regularly at:

**[AusbonSargent.org/calendar](http://AusbonSargent.org/calendar)**

to find out what events are coming up.

When you join our mailing list on the homepage of our website you'll receive e-blasts of upcoming events throughout the year.

Plan ahead and mark your personal calendar for our May 30th Thursday's Child dinner to benefit Ausbon Sargent. Make your reservations directly with the Coach House Restaurant at the New London Inn.

We've also confirmed the date of our Members-Only Progressive Dinner to be held on Thursday, July 25th. We will be sending invitations to our members in June.

This is a very special and popular event.



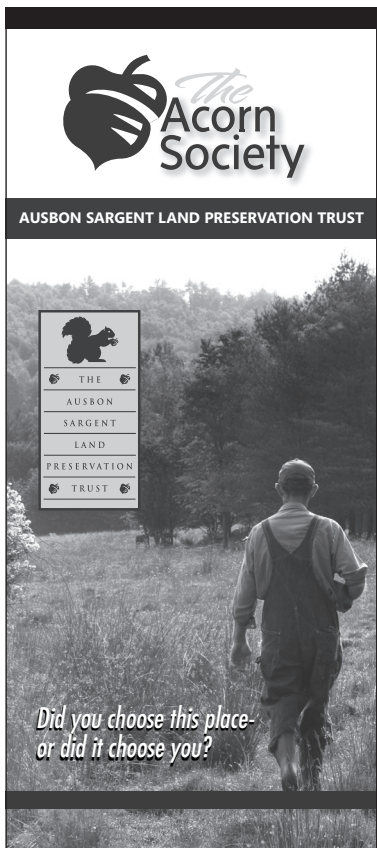
**"There is no power for change greater than a  
community discovering what it cares about."**

*-Margaret Wheatley*

## **You Can be a Member of the Acorn Society, Too...**

Ausbon Sargent is in the business of Saving Land for Tomorrow. The plans that the members of the Acorn Society (listed to the right) have made today contribute to the assurance that Ausbon Sargent's plan for tomorrow will continue to be a reality. If you would like to be a member of this philanthropic group, consider one of these options and join us on our mission:

- *Make a bequest in a will or a trust*
- *Designate Ausbon Sargent as the beneficiary of your IRA assets*
- *Name Ausbon Sargent as a beneficiary of your Life Insurance policy*
- *Include Ausbon Sargent as a recipient of your Life Income Gift*
- *Contact the land trust for details specific to your wishes*



Brochure design by Lee Morrill, On Track Design



*The individuals listed below have notified us that they have provided for Ausbon Sargent in their estate plans.*

*If you have already  
named the Ausbon Sargent  
Land Preservation Trust  
in your estate plan and  
would like to become  
a member of  
The Acorn Society,  
please let us know.*

*If you would  
like more information,  
feel free to call the  
Ausbon Sargent office at  
603-526-6555  
or email  
dstanley@ausbonsargent.org*

*Members who prefer  
not to be recognized  
can remain anonymous.*

**Mr. and Mrs. James D. Abbott\***

**Anonymous (11)**

**Rich and Heidi Anderson**

**Theodore D. Bacon, Jr.\***

**Ann Bemis\***

**Catherine Bogardus\***

**Roland P. Carreker\***

**Michael and Susan Chiarella**

**Rick Cole\***

**Naia L. Conrad\***

**Chris and Janice Cundey**

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**Gerard and Jane Gold**

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**Doug Lyon**

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**Dave and Bev Payne**

**Rachel and Myron\* Rosenblum**

**John and Sage Scott**

**John and Nancy Denny Solodar**

**Virginia Anthony Soule\***

**Peter and Debbie Stanley**

**Libby Trayner\***

**Betsy Denny Warner**

**Mary-Seymour "Sissy" Wastcoat\***

*\*denotes deceased*



71 Pleasant Street  
P.O. Box 2040  
New London  
New Hampshire  
03257-2040  
603.526.6555

#### STAFF (L-R)

**Deborah Stanley**  
Executive Director

**Sue Ellen Andrews**  
Operations Manager

**Andy Deegan,**  
Land Protection Specialist/  
Stewardship Manager

**Patsy Stevenson**  
Bookkeeper

**Peggy Hutter**  
Communications Coordinator

**Kristy Heath**  
Development and  
Administrative Coordinator



Photo at Low Plain in New London by Lee Morrill  
**Special Thanks to all of our guest authors!**  
Newsletter layout & design by Lee Morrill, On Track Design.

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Vice-Chair: Jeff Hollinger  
Secretary: Joseph DiClerico  
Treasurer: Mike Quinn

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Lisa Andrews  
Aimee Ayers  
Kathy Carroll  
Ginny Gwynn  
Deborah Lang  
Graham McSwiney  
Jim Owers  
Steve Root  
Suzanne Tether

## Won't you become a Member?

Won't you join us and become part of the living legacy created through land conservation?

You can find out more about us on our website at: **AusbonSargent.org**

Please make checks payable to: **Ausbon Sargent** and mail to: **P.O. Box 2040, New London, NH 03257-2040**  
or make your secure donation on the Ausbon Sargent website or over the phone at: **603.526.6555**

- ☐ \$10,000+ Ausbon Sargent Society
- ☐ \$5,000+ Legacy Circle
- ☐ \$2,500+ Leadership Circle
- ☐ \$1,000+ Benefactor
- ☐ \$500+ Patron
- ☐ \$250+ Steward
- ☐ \$150+ Protector
- ☐ \$60+ Advocate
- ☐ Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_



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Address \_\_\_\_\_  
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Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Donations to Ausbon Sargent are tax deductible as provided by Section 170 of the Internal Revenue Code.

02/19

