



Summer 2017

## Invest in EHLT

Online:  
[www.ehlt.org](http://www.ehlt.org)

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East Haddam Land  
Trust  
P.O. Box 122  
East Haddam CT 06423

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Help maintain EHLT  
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# East Haddam Land Trust Newsletter

East Haddam Land Trust preserves and protects land in perpetuity for the public benefit.

## MUSICAL BRIDGES 2017

In early 2015, EHLT's board of directors first heard an idea mulling around in Pete Govert's brain. As a life-long musician and self-described tree-hugger, Pete sought a way to bring local musical talent and the local conservation community together.



His vision became reality in August, 2015 when EHLT sponsored the first Musical Bridges concert. About 400 people gathered on the Goodspeed Theatre lawn to hear local musicians showcase their talents in a pick-up band format. EHLT

charged no admission, but asked for donations to a stewardship project—building a footbridge over the Eight-mile River—to which our community generously contributed \$3500.

Musical Bridges 2016 followed the same format, entertaining people who, in turn, boosted the Land Trust's Stewardship Fund by about \$6000.

EHLT plans for Musical Bridges 2017, August 28, from 6:00 to 9:30 pm, to be as fun, entertaining, and successful as previous concerts.—*jmh*

*We hope you will join us!*



## In Memory of Philip Ashton (1934-2017)

On January 27, 2017, EHLT lost a dear friend and supporter. Phil called Meriden home but spent much of the year with his wife Jane and family at their Bashan Lake cottage. Phil was active in land preservation in Meriden and East Haddam. He recognized the importance of open space and worked to protect parcels in Meriden right to his death. For EHLT, he often drove from Meriden for business meetings, even in the winter. Beside his monetary support of EHLT, Phil and his grandson took over steward-

ship of EHLT's Atlantic Mill/Bernstein Preserve. For many years, they mowed the entrance with push mowers and Phil, in his late 70's, personally tackled removing the brush and vines in the old mill foundation. In the summer and fall of 2016, when his illness prevented him from working there, Phil apologized for not getting back in there—he had more to do! Thank you Phil for all you did for EHLT. Your wisdom and insight were always appreciated, and are greatly missed.—*rs*



### East Haddam Land Trust Board of Directors—2017

**Rob Smith,**  
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Director

Visit About EHLT at  
[www.ehlt.org](http://www.ehlt.org) to read  
Directors' profiles

## Grants to Highlight Birds & Pollinators

Within the last year, EHLT was awarded two grants to build knowledge of the complexities of our region's environment.



### Audubon Connecticut

EHLT collaborated with the East Haddam Conservation Commission to obtain an Audubon CT grant to help residents learn about birds in the Lyme Forest Block Important Bird Area (IBA), a 62,000-acre connected woodland particularly important to year-round and migrating birds.

The first grant-related event, a June, 2017 hike at Patrell Preserve, identified 38 bird species either by sight or sound. Sixteen people participated.

An additional educational event will highlight steps each of us can take to meet the habitat needs of

local bird populations. Also, signs similar to the one at left will be placed at the six EHLT preserves (Ayers, Ballahack, Hammond Mill, Olde Field, Sheepskin Hollow, and William Jezek Memorial) and 13 Town preserves within the Lyme Forest Block IBA.

### New England Wildflower Society (NEWFS)

NEWFS conserves plants native to our region and encourages gardeners and landscape professionals to include regional native plants in their planting plans. They recently launched Pollinate New England, an educational outreach program that involves building a network of model pollinator

gardens. Similar gardens will be installed in each New England state (see [www.newenglandwild.org](http://www.newenglandwild.org) to learn more).

EHLT volunteers will prepare the Golet Farm site this autumn; installation will start in spring of 2018. NEWFS personnel and EHLT volunteers will also host a coinciding educational event at Golet Farm Preserve.

The garden will serve as a model for anyone seeking to add native pollinating plants to their home landscape. It will also complement plants that currently grow in the Golet Farm meadow, such as the blue-ets pictured below.

Watch for more on the



gardens throughout New England. EHLT's Golet Farm Preserve was chosen as one of Connecticut's two Pollinate New England

Important Bird Area and Pollinate New England programs at [www.ehlt.org](http://www.ehlt.org) and on EHLT's Facebook page.—jmh

## From EHLT's Board of Directors

Reflected in the 2016 Operating Results below is the generosity of our members. You make East Haddam Land Trust's mission possible—to preserve and protect land in perpetuity for the public benefit.

Keeping with this mission, EHLT spends most of its income on land preservation, stewardship, and membership and outreach.

### Land Acquisition

2016 outlays include the entire purchase cost for the 12-acre Bloch property, and an option for a different 19.5-acre property. About half of the Block purchase is offset by a State of CT grant (see note in table).

### Stewardship

We created and fenced parking areas at Hidden Valley Farm and Golet Farm Preserves, installed signs at each preserve, and maintained public use trails.

### Membership and Outreach

Costs include printing and mailing newsletters, annual donation mailings, and programs.

### 2016 Operating Expenses

When land acquisition pushes EHLT's annual operating expenses beyond income for a specific year, as in 2016, EHLT relies on cash assets to cover costs.

This illustrates why your continued support is so critical ... having ample cash assets allows EHLT to act when land becomes available for preservation.—*jmh*

**Thank You!**

East Haddam Land Trust 2016 Operating Results	
<b>Income</b>	
Donations (membership, corporate, stock, memorials)	\$80,847.51
Gear Sales (clothing, hats)	\$80.00
Calendar (donations, sponsorships)	\$7,249.79
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$88,177.30</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	
Land Acquisition (appraisals, legal, surveys, purchases)	\$113,190.49
Stewardship (signs, fencing, maintenance)	\$11,242.26
Membership and Outreach (printing, mailing, programs)	\$10,175.01
Administrative (insurance, accounting, education, dues)	\$6,402.87
Calendar (printing, mailing, contest prizes, layout)	\$5,604.17
Scholarship (EHLT Anita Ballek Scholarship)	\$1,000.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$147,614.80</b>
Operating Surplus (Deficit)	(\$59,437.50)
Operating Surplus (Deficit) (less \$49,500 State grant received in 2017)	(\$9,937.50)

## East Haddam Land Trust



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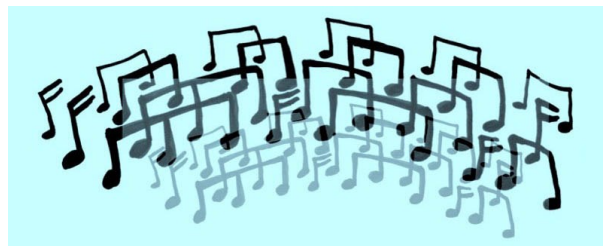
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## East Haddam Land Trust Events

See [www.ehlt.org](http://www.ehlt.org), Events,  
or like us on Facebook,  
for more on summer  
“Last Sunday” and Full Moon Paddles,  
plus other EHLT events.

Hikes and Stewardship  
resume in September

Join us Monday, August 28  
for **Musical Bridges 2017**



a wonderful outdoor concert,  
6:00-9:30 pm

**Receive Event updates by email. Sign up at [www.ehlt.org](http://www.ehlt.org).**