



Cavendish Community and Conservation Association

Our Vision: *CCCA is committed to a vibrant Cavendish/Proctorsville community that supports its human and natural resources, building a legacy of health, integrity and vitality for future generations.*

www.CavendishCCCA.org

Spring/Summer 2014 Volume No. 11, Issue No. 2



Bumbleweed by Mary Alice Churchill



Winter Morning by Noelle Gignoux



Where's the Bug? by Ellen Parrish

Every spring the CCCA holds its Cavendish Calendar Photo contest. Residents (including second home owners) from Cavendish and Proctorsville vie to have their photographs published in the next year's calendar. So this spring some thirty-six contestants submitted pictures that were then displayed for townsfolk to vote on. For the first few days the photos were displayed at the elementary school in Proctorsville, then they spent some time in the Cavendish Fletcher Library and then went to Crow's Bakery on Depot Street. While the general public was given the opportunity to vote, a panel of judges reviewed all submissions and determined winners in three age categories. Those winners have been selected and are announced below in this Newsletter while three of the pictures appear above. The calendar selections will be announced soon and will be published here and in other media.

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A Message from Robin

Well, summer is here and the long winter months are but a memory. The CCCA recently welcomed Rolf van Schaik as the newest member of our board and we are fortunate to have him on our team. His longstanding presence in our community and his knowledge of the area and its history will be a great asset to our work.

CCCA continues to serve the community with our committees engaged in a variety of activities related to conservation and related to alternative energy use. We are also involved in community building through our Cavendish Community Fund grants, our presentation of Candidates' Night and, thanks to the tireless efforts of Sharon Huntley, the Summer Concert Series on the Proctorsville Green. These multiple branches of the organization continue to evolve with the Conservation and Energy committees now linked with the Town of Cavendish on various projects.

We welcome participation in our activities from anyone in Cavendish and Proctorsville. Please let us know your ideas, get involved with one of our committees, come to a board meeting and see how we work. You can also find out more about who we are and what we are doing by accessing our website at www.cavendishccca.org. I wish all of you a wonderful summer.
Robin Timko

Cavendish Community Fund Supports Budding Thespians

The Cavendish Community Fund awarded one grant this spring to the third grade class at the Cavendish Town Elementary School, to enable the school to participate in a drama-based project with the Weston Playhouse.

This hands-on learning experience incorporated all facets of theater production. During April and May the Weston Playhouse teaching director walked 11 third grade students through script writing, casting, rehearsing, learning to become effective actors and actresses, designing costumes and performing on a professional stage. This year the class also worked with a professional book illustrator to create scenery, props and costumes. The entire experience culminated in a performance on the Weston Playhouse stage.

Grants are awarded twice a year, but applications can be submitted at any time. Applications and guidelines for grants are available at the CCCA's website: www.CavendishCCCA.org under the Community Fund tab. Hardcopies are also available at Crow's Bakery in Proctorsville and at the Cavendish town office.

Projects, programs or events must directly benefit the Cavendish community in some way. A panel of local citizens reviews all applications and recommends the ultimate grantees based on the quality and feasibility of each proposal. Grants are not expected to exceed \$1,000 each and will depend primarily on the number of applications and the amounts requested.

For further information on applying, on eligibility or on any other aspect of the grant program, please call Peter LaBelle at 226-7250 or Barbara Dickey at 226-7187.

Walk and Talk Series Presents on Rattlesnakes and Birds

This Spring featured two Walk and Talk presentations, one on April 10th regarding rattlesnakes in Vermont with Doug Blodgett from the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Service, and the other one on May 18th when we took our annual Bird Walk with Alma Beals of the Ascutney Audubon Society. The CCCA Conservation Committee coordinates the Walk and Talk presentations.

Blodgett has worked for Fish and Wildlife for many years and has covered bear, moose, deer and other fur bearing creatures as well as rattlesnakes that live in our State. There is only one area in the State of Vermont, along Lake Champlain, where the rattlers still live and breed. Doug informed us that many people think they see rattlesnakes in other areas but in fact it is a different kind of snake that has learned to mimic the rattler's method of lifting the end of its tail and shaking it in warning, very convincing but in that case not venomous.

He showed us photos of the long sun-basking snakes, waiting patiently on logs or stones for the unsuspecting mouse to come along, and female snakes soaking up the heat of the sun and warming their pregnant bodies. Apparently the female rattlesnake is the only one of its species that will actually stay with her young after they are born to protect them from other predators.

For further information, and if you have an idea for a Walk and Talk event, please contact Robin Timko at 226-7736.

In other news, the Conservation Committee, working with various landowners, the Town of Cavendish and the Vermont River Spring/Summer 2014; Page 3

Conservancy continues to take steps forward to help buffer land along the Black River against damage from future flooding. The town was granted funds for this process and CCCA is taking an active role. This has been a delicate and complicated process, which continues to evolve as we move along. At this time we are still hoping to plant a riparian buffer along the river this fall. This project could use more assistance, so if your passion is conservation of land and natural resources, please call Robin at 226-7736.

Calendar Photo Contest Judges Have Spoken



Smokey Sunrise by Lydia Churchill

Each year the CCCA sponsors a photography contest in which Cavendish and Proctorsville citizens and second homeowners participate. Awards are given for the best photos picked by a panel of judges. Then the voting public selects their twelve favorite photos and those photos will appear in the next Cavendish Calendar.

We are still waiting for the final votes to come in for the Calendar winners and when they are tallied we will announce the results on our web site and in the local media. In the meantime the judges have met and determined the winners and runners-up in the three age categories. Winner of 1st place in the age 5-12 category is

Mary Alice Churchill with *Bumbleweed* and runner up is Tierney O'Brien's *Ever Bow*. Winner of first place in the age 13-18 category is Lydia Churchill with *Smokey Sunrise* and runner up is Noelle Gignoux's *Winter Morning*. Winner of 1st place in the adult category is Cheryl Leiner with *The Gift of Color*. Runner up is Kam McIntyre's *A Watchful Eye*. This year's collection of photos was truly spectacular. Honorary mention by the judges is given to the following contributors - *King of the Hill* by Tim O'Donoghue, *Snowy Dog* by Amanda Gross, *Where's the Bug?* by Ellen Parrish, *Seeing Double* by Jill Flinn and *Winter Walk on Depot* by Leslie A Fitzhugh.

Cajun band Yankee Chank – will entertain. Rounding out the series on August 13th will be Rutland's great Voodoo Alien Blues Band.

The Cavendish Community and Conservation Association will again coordinate the series. All concerts are free and open to the public, so grab your lawn chair, a picnic and a cold drink, and join your friends and neighbors to enjoy plenty of rollicking good music from the gazebo.

The summer concert series has a long history in Proctorsville and many area residents reserve Wednesday evenings to listen to the live music. As always, the concerts will be held unless severe weather threatens. If you would like to help, CCCA would like to hear from you. Please call Robin at 226-7736.

Summer Concerts Begin in Proctorsville



Part of the crowd at the Gypsy Reel concert on the Proctorsville Green in 2013

Again this year the Town of Cavendish will host a Wednesday evening summer music series on the Proctorsville Green. Each show will begin at 6:00 p.m.

The lineup begins July 9th with the wide-ranging band Gypsy Reel, followed on July 16th by the always-popular Rick Redington. Then, on July 23rd the multi-talented Sensible Shoes will play and on July 30th we'll hear from the legendary Chris Kleeman. On August 6th Vermont's answer to New Orleans – the

Join us as a Member of CCCA!

Dues are a nominal \$35 per year for full membership. In order to join CCCA, please fill out the information below and send with a check payable to Cavendish Community and Conservation Association to:

CCCA
P.O. Box 605
Cavendish, VT 05142

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

E-mail: _____