

Brad Hathaway walking “around the world” to preserve Old Aucoot land



BRAD'S WALK AROUND THE WORLD

In 1668, according to the Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, the land surrounding Aucoot Cove in Mattapoisett was sold by the Native Americans to a group of five colonists, among them Mayflower passenger John Cooke. Witnessing the deed was a man named Arthur Hathaway. More than four centuries later the Hathaway name lives on in Old Aucoot in the dynamic personage of 88-year-old Brad Hathaway, a direct descendant of both men. A lifelong conservationist, Brad co-founded the Mattapoisett Land Trust (MLT) in 1974 along with David and

To celebrate Brad's lifetime of accomplishments, the Mattapoisett Land Trust will hold a celebration on Saturday October 3rd starting at 10 a.m. as Brad walks the final mile of his journey. Please join us along Aucoot Road starting at the intersection with Bowman Road, and cheer Brad as he walks the last mile back to his home at 87 Aucoot Road. Parking is available along Aucoot Road and at the Town Beach at Hiller's Cove. MLT will insist that everyone wear a mask and keep at least 10 foot separation between family groups. Supporters can walk the last mile with Brad (masked and keeping a safe separation) or cheer Brad as he passes or crosses the finish line at 87 Aucoot Road.

Norma Hewitt, George Mock and other like-minded citizens who grew concerned about the pace of development. "We looked into the future and we feared what the town might become," Brad said.

So the MLT was incorporated and the campaign to conserve land in Mattapoisett began. Owing to their foresight and the efforts of many who have followed, the Mattapoisett Land Trust today protects more than 850 acres and the original colonists might even recognize some of the lands MLT holds. But Brad's desire to protect land continues and his ties to the Aucoot district remain unshakeable. In fact, he has now embarked on a fundraising effort to save more land by completing a walk he began more than thirty years ago with a distance equivalent to a

journey around the world -- 24,901 miles!

Brad's walk began in 1988 when, after finding him at risk for heart disease and diabetes, a doctor advised Brad to get more exercise. As a result he began to walk daily, weather permitting, covering at least three miles on most outings. Right from day one, in December 1988, he logged his miles. It's been quite an odyssey but in 2020, 32 years later, the finish line is in sight. Brad should complete his walk around October 1st. The fact that he was diagnosed with Parkinson's last December only added to the challenge but failed to deter his efforts.

All proceeds from Brad's fundraising walk will be used for land acquisitions in the east Mattapoisett area to increase the 480 acres of conservation land MLT holds there presently. For more information or to donate, see www.mattlandtrust.org/bradwalk or send contributions directly to MLT at P.O. Box 31, Mattapoisett, MA.



Deb Dyson encourages Brad on his daily walk.



Jake Meleski after installing MLT sign

The Heron is published bi-annually by the Mattapoisett Land Trust.

The MLT, formed in 1974, is a non-profit, tax-exempt charitable organization incorporated under the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Its purpose is to preserve open space for the enjoyment of current and future residents of Mattapoisett, as well as to educate the public about the sound use of natural resources, and to work with other organizations having the same goals.

Our membership consists of annual contributors — our primary source of revenue — and a volunteer Board of Directors: Marc Anderson, Charles A. Bedser, Mary Cabral, Malcom Campbell, Wendy Copps, Don Cuddy, Arthur Damaskos, Peter Davies, Joanna Dresser, Ellen Flynn, Sandra Hering, Gary P. Johnson, Jerry Johnson, Paul Osenkowski, Charles Radville, Thomas Galavotti, ORR student representative and Mike Huguenin, President.

The MLT is a non-profit 501 (c) (3) organization. All contributions are fully tax deductible.

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As all of us cope with the COVID-19 pandemic, remember that exercise outdoors with fresh air and sunshine are healthy ways to maintain both your physical and mental health. Get out and take a walk or ride on your MLT Preserves. Take your younger children to enjoy the new Story Walk coming to the Dunseith Preserve (home of Salty the Seahorse) this Fall.

Kids Corner

Just one word: Plastics








In the 1970's many in the environmental movement became concerned about the amount of plastic that was cluttering the landscape and filling our landfills. The problem was that unlike paper which would decompose or glass and metal which could be recycled and used again, the plastic just stayed in the environment for decades or centuries. With concerns about plastic rising, the plastics industry tried to make its product more attractive by creating a "recycling" symbol with a number for each type of plastic. It also encouraged towns to have recycling programs so that citizens could now feel better about using a plastic container and then throwing it into the recycling bin.

The industry created 7 categories of plastic with the number inside the triangle. (Number 7 is just a catch-all category of "Other.") While it may be possible to recycle #1 through #6, a market to buy and recycle plastic currently only exists for #1- PET (used drink bottles and containers) and #2- HDPE (used for heavy containers such as detergent bottles). The others are not commercially recyclable at this time so they shouldn't be placed in recycling bins.

We can never recycle our way out of our plastics problem: most plastic is made from crude oil resulting in greater greenhouse gas emissions; it's cheaper to use new plastic material than to use recycled material; plastic breaks down partially each time it is recycled. The problem can only be solved by using less plastic.

What can you do? Use glass or metal containers where possible. Avoid using such things as plastic bags or plastic straws. Clean the items you put into recycling (food waste contaminates the item) and only recycle plastic labeled #1- PET or #2- HDPE. Most importantly, think about the plastic you use: where does it come from and where is it going. This is your world.

Plastic Resin Identification Codes

						
PETE	HDPE	PVC	LDPE	PP	PS	OTHER
Polyethylene Terephthalate	High-Density Polyethylene	Polyvinyl Chloride	Low-Density Polyethylene	Polypropylene	Polystyrene	Other

MLT during COVID times

Please excuse this smaller Heron as we cope with COVID-19. MLT's 2020 Annual Meeting was held remotely via Zoom on June 14th, with 26 members participating. Unfortunately we were forced to cancel all other public events (Tour de Crème, Harbor Days, Community Picnic) planned for spring and summer. At present we are not planning any fall or winter events except for Brad's Walk on October 3rd. For an update on MLT education activities, see page four.

Since March we have seen a tremendous increase in people using MLT properties as a safe way to get outdoors for fresh air and exercise. In response, MLT volunteers worked hard over the summer to improve our lands with new trails, new kiosks, Story Walks and better signage. And we benefited from the labor of Jake Meleski, a rising senior at URI who worked on our trails

and new kiosks as well as invasive species control and blueberry patch maintenance during June, July and August. Thanks Jake! Property improvements will continue in the coming months.

As reported in last spring's Heron MLT is raising funds for two acquisitions: Santos Farm and Betsey's Meadow. Detailed descriptions for both projects are found at www.mattlandtrust.org. Fundraising has gone well this summer; thank you to all contributors! And it is not too late to contribute if you are able.

For the latest MLT information, always check www.mattlandtrust.org or follow our Facebook and Instagram pages. Thank you for your support of MLT. Please stay safe until COVID-19 is behind us.



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The Heron

MLT Education updates

MLT's education activities were forced to halt when local schools closed last March, and then summer camps limited their operations. Despite the closures MLT awarded the 2020 Blanche B. Perry Scholarship (\$1000) to MacKensie Riley, who is attending Carnegie Mellon University. Congratulations and best of luck MacKensie!

As we enter fall, MLT Education Committee members are

- Planning with ORR junior and senior high teachers to support their science curriculum, through student videos, scavenger hunts and community service on MLT lands.

- Working with Liam Waldron, a freshman at Bishop Stang, on a podcast script describing discovered creatures such as birds, oysters, turtles, herons and quahogs on MLT properties.

- Collaborating with the Mattapoisett Children's Librarian on four upcoming Story Walks.

- Finalizing plans to install child-constructed Fairy Houses on the Old Oxcart Path at MLT's Munn Preserve.

- Drafting a short brochure for school-age children and their families describing MLT's many education activities.

Watch local media as well as MLT's website and social media pages for ongoing news and announcements about MLT education activities.

Honor Your Loved Ones

In honor of Freeman Bauer:

Elizabeth Hill
Mattapoisett, MA

In memory of Lois & Nason Burden:

Brenda & Dan Paull
Mercer Island, WA

In memory of Donata Horne Cassels:

The Brad Hathaway family
Mattapoisett, MA

In memory of

David Morse "Davo" Clay:

Bruce Clay
Boxford, MA

In honor of Brad Hathaway's many years of service:

Hugh & Donna Kelly
Weston, MA

In honor of Mike Huguenin's

birthday:

Chris & Michael Ciompi and
Patrick & Deacon Huguenin
Brooklyn, NY

In honor of Gary P. Johnson's birthday:

Virginia Johnson
Williams Bay, WI
Luana Josvold
Mattapoisett, MA

In memory of Graeme Keir:

Susan Keir
Mattapoisett, MA

In honor of Florence Martocci:

Robert & Linda Belenger
Raynham, MA

In memory of

Joseph "Linc" Medeiros:

Anne Coggins
Mattapoisett, MA

In memory of Stetson Mendell:

Theresa Keresztes
Marylhurst, OR

In memory of David Mort:

Sean & Amy Walsh
Sharon, MA

Thank you for your generous contributions which will be used to further our mission of protecting the land and the environment of Mattapoisett for generations to come.