



**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.*

## **Spring '09 Newsletter**

**Volume No. 6, Issue No. 1**



### **A Message from Robin**



Spring's warmth is most welcome this year! The CCCA continues to work in a variety of ways to serve members of Cavendish. Many people have asked what it is that we do and I would like to begin this Spring Newsletter with a brief clarification of our work.

#### **Serving the Community:**

- The Cavendish Community Fund (CCF) gives grants for cultural and educational events in Cavendish that are organized by Cavendish residents. These events are free and open to the public.
- CCCA co-sponsors the Cavendish Update, an online newsletter that helps keep residents informed of what is happening in our area.

- CCCA brings speakers and hosts forums on a variety of issues, from Candidate's Night to the Energy forum.

#### **Working towards Conservation and a Sustainable Cavendish:**

- CCCA has established a focused Sustainability Cavendish task force that will help Cavendish move forward into the emerging era of green development. Joining this task force is Karen Wilson, a full time resident of Cavendish with an Ecobroker real estate license. Karen is involved with David Bonta of USA Solar Store and with Dallas Cox of the Cavendish Solar Store. It is wonderful to have her on board. Please be advised that the Sustainable Cavendish committee is open to all community members who are ready to get more involved!
- CCCA is co-sponsoring Earth Week in April with a presentation on April 21st at the CTES at 6:30 by Patrick Parenteau entitled *Climate Change and its impact on New England*. This presentation will address what climate change means for you and me.

Parenteau says, "what we know is bad enough. Relatively minor temperature increases have already resulted in range shifts of migratory species, declines in syrup production due to warmer nights, more extreme weather events and the spread of pests and invasives. What we don't know is of greater concern for example: abrupt climate change, another ice age, ocean acidification etc. What we need to do is mitigate greenhouse gas emissions from various sectors such as energy, transportation, agriculture and land use". Parenteau says there are ways to adapt to the changes that are already underway. Patrick Parenteau is a professor of Law and Senior Counsel in the Environmental and Natural Resources Law Clinic at Vermont Law School. He has an extensive background in environmental and natural resources law. Professor Parenteau is a nationally recognized expert on the Endangered Species Act, the Clean Water Act and environmental law and policy for over 30 years. He is a recipient of the National Wildlife Federation's Conservation Achievement Award for 2005 in recognition of his contributions to wildlife conservation and environmental education.

As always, we invite community members to get involved. If you have a question, comment, or would like to help on one of our committees please feel free to call me at 226-7736.

**Cavendish Water Update:**

As of March 26th, the Cavendish Municipal Water System's new filtration plant is about 85% complete. All major components have been procured and nearly all are installed. Any remaining work should be completed shortly which will be followed by numerous and detailed testing and start-up procedures. "With good fortune," to quote Richard

Svec the town manager, start up may begin around the end of April. It is hoped that by the time of the next quarterly billing to those on town water, the new plant will be up and running with filtered water coming out of the tap! In other words, THE LONG WAIT for clear running water is almost over!

**Velco update:**

While many legislators in Montpelier petitioned for a moratorium on the Velco expansion (which in Cavendish crosses the Black River, Route 103, and continues to Quent Phalen Road and the Coolidge Station,) the Public Service Board approved the upgrade and according to Etienne Ting of the Planning Commission, since Velco had a preexisting right of way, they will now move forward with their expansion. Concerns along the expansion line, and among legislators were that new technology will make these lines obsolete and that taxpayer dollars would be better off invested in other forms of energy transmission.

**CCCA 2010 Calendar:**

Last but not least, I want to remind everyone that it is time to submit your photographs for the 2010 CAVENDISH CALENDAR AND PHOTOGRAPH CONTEST! Entry forms are available at Crows Bakery, the Cavendish Town Elementary School and the Cavendish Town office.

*Robin Timko, Chair of CCCA*

## Welcome to Cavendish All New Homeowners

On a fun-filled, cold winter evening several new residents of Cavendish enjoyed the warm hospitality of the Cavendish Inn along with members of the Cavendish Historical Society and the CCCA. The occasion was a pot-luck dinner at which the new residents got to meet some of the older residents. Although this was a new event for the two groups, everyone agreed that it should not be the last and that another pot-luck should be held in six months. Anybody who has recently (within the last few years) moved to Cavendish or Proctorsville, both as full time or as part time residents, are welcome to attend. Invitations to new arrivals will be mailed out before the next dinner, but if we miss anyone, they are invited just the same.

## CCCA and CHS Partner to Bring Earth Week to Cavendish



Mark your calendars for a very full and information packed week this April. Most communities celebrate or at least acknowledge Earth Day (April 22<sup>nd</sup> this year) in some fashion. But Cavendish is going one better and will hold a week long celebration with seminars, discussions, exhibits, and even a movie. CCCA has teamed up with the Cavendish Historical Society to coordinate and present the program. Several local businesses and the Cavendish library are also sponsoring the week. All events will be held at the

elementary school in Proctorsville from April 20<sup>th</sup> through 26<sup>th</sup>. The events are:

### **Monday:**

*Clean Green for Cheap* -Depression Era sustainable housekeeping tips. Sponsor: Cavendish Historical Society. 6:30-8:00 p.m.

### **Tuesday:**

*The Impact of Climate Change in Vermont.* With guest speaker Patrick Parenteau, Professor of Law and Senior Counsel in the Environmental and Natural Resources Law Clinic of the Vermont Law School. Sponsor: CCCA 6:30-8:00 p.m.

### **Wednesday: Earth Day**

*Windy Wednesday.* Celebrate all things related to wind power. Kite flying and demo of various wind devices, including a Skysteam windmill. 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. at Fletcher Field, Route 103, Proctorsville.

*Sustainable Energy Panel:* Solar hot water, solar electric, solar tubing, wind and geothermal energy. Sponsor: Cavendish Solar Store. 6:30-8:00 p.m.

### **Thursday:**

*Grow, Eat, and Recycle the Rest.* Gardening, composting, recycling and local foods. Sponsor: CCCA. 6:30-8:00 p.m.

### **Friday:**

Movie Night: *The 11<sup>th</sup> Hour* Sponsor: Cavendish Fletcher Community Library. 6:30-8:00 p.m.

### **Saturday:**

*Sustainable Living in Cavendish.* Workshops will be held from 10:00 a.m. to noon on sustainable building, sustainable landscaping, group net metering, and tax incentives. Vendors will be on site to discuss their products

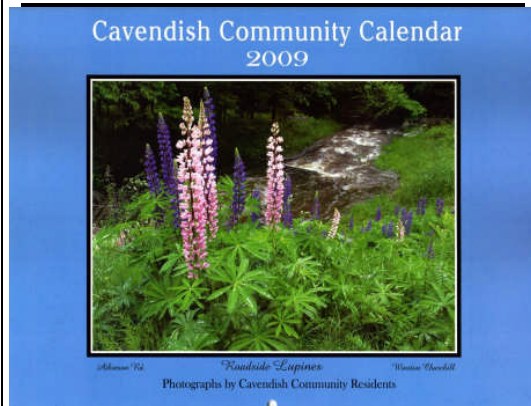
and services from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Sponsors: Cavendish Solar Store, USA Solar Store, CCCA, CHS, and Calabrese Architects. Food will be provided by WAAWWE Farmer's Market (located at the corner of rte.103 and rt.10) who believe in food that is grown locally, and offer a variety of local, free-range meats, poultry, eggs and dairy products.

**Sunday:**

*Sustainable Living House Tour.* Meet at the Cavendish Solar Store at 1:00 p.m. for a 2 to 3 hour tour of how cutting edge energy alternatives are put into action in Cavendish. Further details are available from the Cavendish Solar Store and will also be available at the various workshops throughout Earth Week.

Please come out and support your Town. There's a lot to learn!

**CCCA 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Calendar Contest – Get Your Pictures in!**



**The theme of this year's contest is:**

**The Landscapes of Cavendish**

Just as last year, we will have two contests in one event:

1) The judged Cavendish Photo contest with professional artists among the judges. There will be three age group categories - 1) five to twelve, 2) thirteen to seventeen, and 3) eighteen and over.

Judges will select one prize winner for each category.

2) Contest for 2010 Calendar Photos.

Photos for the 2010 Calendar will be chosen by the people of Cavendish and the photo with the most votes receives the Popular Choice Award.

**CONTEST GUIDELINES**

All participants must be part or full time Cavendish town residents. Photos must highlight the beauty of our various landscapes and historic heritage and may include animals and people.

One photo per entrant, please and the photo must be of good quality, taken by the person submitting it. Entries are eligible for both contests. All photos must be 8"x10", horizontal layout. Do not mount or frame photos. Only photos taken in the town of Cavendish are accepted for the photo contest.

**HOW TO ENTER**

Entry Forms available in the Town Office, Elementary School or Crows Bakery. Paperclip your photo to the entry form. (It is best to put a small piece of paper between your photo and the paper clip.) Write your name, phone number, and age group on the back of each photo.

Mail or deliver to:

Cavendish Photo Contest, Cavendish Town Office, Cavendish, VT 05142.

Entries will be accepted beginning May 11<sup>th</sup> and ending June 5<sup>th</sup>. Photos will be exhibited in the Cavendish Town Elementary School from June 15<sup>th</sup> to June 21<sup>st</sup>. June 15<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> is for student, teacher and parent viewing and voting only. On June 19<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup>, viewing and voting will be open to the community at large. Prizewinners will be announced by Monday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>. For more information call Robin Timko at 226-7736

## **CCCA Holds Legislative Candidates' Night**

Continuing a tradition begun in 2006, CCCA held a Candidates' Night to introduce those individuals running for office to the voters. As in the past, the event was held the week before Town Meeting so that voters could see and hear from the candidates. This year the event was televised and recorded for re-broadcast on cable TV. In addition to introducing the candidates, the meeting provided an opportunity for voters to learn about other issues on the ballot and to be discussed at Town Meeting. Representatives of town government and members of the School Board attended so that any issues of controversy could be explained. By giving the voters a chance to review the issues, questions at Town Meeting could be sharpened and less time devoted to irrelevancies. Another Candidates' Night is planned for this fall before the general elections. Date and time will be reported here and on LPC-TV.

## **Cavendish Community Fund News**



*George Thompson, principal of CTES accepts a check from Barbara Dickey, chair of the Cavendish Community Fund.*

The Cavendish Community Fund awarded two grants during the Fall of

2008. The first went to the Cavendish Town Elementary School to provide more fresh fruits and vegetables to the children as they learn about the farm-to-school food connection. The grant will also cover the cost of VT FEED (Food Education Every Day) to work with parents and teachers to create sustainable goals for long term nutritional education at CTES. By incorporating locally produced foods into the school lunch menu and tying the improved nutrition to classroom lessons, the school hopes to positively influence life-long eating patterns. Parent volunteers have worked with the teachers at CTES to previously plant a small garden at the school, and have run several successful programs on different foods. CCF is pleased to support this extended effort to provide long term nutritional education at CTES.

The second grant went to the Cavendish Fletcher Community Library to help elevate community awareness of the library and its amenities. During spring 2009, librarian Katalin Welch will present several classic movies accompanied by a small theme-related meal. For example, the movie *Titanic* will be shown accompanied by a bill of fare based on the original menus that the ship presented to each passenger class on the evening of its ill-fated voyage. Since the library is located in the same building as the town elementary school, children are well aware of its presence. However, Cavendish adults are less aware of what the library has to offer. Therefore, the movie series will be aimed at adults and will try to enhance visibility in the community.

CCF has set a deadline for spring 2009 grant applications. They must be received by close of business on Friday, May 1, 2009. Submissions should be sent to CCF, P.O. Box 605, Cavendish,

VT 05142. For more information about CCF or the application process, please call Peter LaBelle at 226-7250, or Barbara Dickey at 226-7187.

### **Reserve the Date**



*The Cavendish Inn*

On Saturday, August 1<sup>st</sup> the CCF will hold its annual fund raising dinner for 2009. It will be held at the Cavendish Inn on Route 131 between the villages of Cavendish and Proctorsville. Inkeepers Tim and Peter Jefferson promise that the dinner will meet your every expectation. And of course there will be wonderful entertainment and fine weather. Well, maybe we are promising too much with that last one, but previous events have been hugely enjoyable, come rain or come shine! The cost is \$65 per person or \$125 per couple. For tickets and information contact Robin Timko at Crow's Bakery or at 802-226-7736. Please join us for another memorable event.

### **Cavendish Community and Conservation Association Board of Directors**

Robin Timko  
Deborah Harrison O'Brien  
Will Hunter  
Tim Jefferson  
Barbara Dickey  
Peter LaBelle  
Jennifer Stowell  
Sandra Russo

### **CCCA Historic Barn Preservation Committee Secures a Grant from the Vermont Dept. of Historic Preservation**



*The Regier Barn on Quarry Road*

Working with the CCCA Barn Preservation committee, Alan and Wendy Regier of Proctorsville have received a \$10,000 grant from the Vermont State Historic Preservation office. According to the Barn Census done by the CCCA Barn Preservation committee, their barn is perhaps the oldest still standing in Cavendish. It is an English three bay barn with gable roof and eave entrance, built about 1800 for raising sheep, storing hay and threshing. It has hewn beams and chestnut gunstock posts that date it to that period. The Regiers will be accepting bids for repairing the stone foundation, the tamarack sills, and stabilization of the structure. The state requires that the Regiers match the grant and that the work be done this building season. Congratulations to the Regiers.

We believe that the entire community will benefit from having this barn preserved. Its visibility, its age, its style, its setting and its direct link to one of the earliest and still resident founding families make it an important barn to preserve. Descendents of the Spaulding family are still resident in Cavendish and their name is one of those painted on "their" pew in the Cavendish Unitarian-

Universalist Church, a sneaked-ashlar stone church built about 1845.

The Regier barn is not open to the general public, but the owners have agreed to allow visitors to see the barn by appointment. Two opportunities to see the barn have already been planned. The barn is not far from the Cavendish Town Elementary School and discussions are underway with teachers to develop a local history module that includes the history of local barns. With its historical background and unique style, this barn will be one of the stars of the show. The Cavendish Historical Society is planning a Barn Tour during the coming summer based on the barn census that CCCA has already completed. The town has offered the use of one of the school buses to ferry participants to and from the various barns on the tour (so as to reduce parking problems). Again, the Regiers' barn will be a highlight of the tour.

### **How Does Your Garden Grow?**



Last summer we pioneered a Community Garden in Proctorsville, thanks to the generosity of the Gethsemane Church, which allowed us to plant on their land. The garden was well tended by about six people on a regular basis. We grew tomatoes, beans, potatoes, basil, squash and broccoli. Several people in the community were very supportive. We received compost from one of the farms and others came to rototill. We had a good 2009 growing

season with Mother Nature supplying most of the rain and no pesky critters getting to our plants. Besides our gardeners and their families enjoying the vegetable and herb bounty, we were also able to supply the Cavendish Elementary School with over a hundred tomatoes for their lunch program. We expect the school connection to expand this coming season under a new program instituted by the school to better educate the children on farm to table, and the positive effects of fresh foods on their nutrition. (See the article above on CCF Grants.)

We are in the planning process now for this summer's garden. One option is to break up the garden and give residents their own sections so that they can grow their choice of vegetables, herbs or other plants. The other option is to allow individuals to share a plot and work together, sharing the bounty at season's end. Another possibility that we are currently discussing is to work closely with Black River Good Neighbor Services to grow fresh vegetables for their distribution program. They operate the food shelf that serves Cavendish and Proctorsville, and currently they serve many needy local citizens by distributing canned, packaged and frozen foods. They have said that they would welcome the opportunity to supplement their clients' diets with fresh produce.

If you are interested in planting your own produce in a section of the garden, or by helping the community gardeners in any capacity, please call Sandra Russo at 802-226-7398 or send her an e-mail at [sandra.russo@yahoo.com](mailto:sandra.russo@yahoo.com).

## **The CCCA Mission Statement**

The CCCA is a non-profit membership organization that is dedicated to the conservation of land and natural resources and to the preservation of historic sites within the context of sustainable economic growth. Its commitment is to promote understanding and learning that engages and benefits all members of the Cavendish/Proctorsville community, now and in the future.

### **Calling All Members!**

*Deb O'Brien, Membership Chair*

CCCA has been very busy over the last few months, with fundraising, educational programs, candidates' night, recreational events and more! Great fun has been had by all, both participants and helpers, and we wanted to extend an open invitation to any member who is interested in joining us. Whether you have one hour or 100 hours, we have something for you. Do you have a unique talent or gift? Volunteer to raffle off your services to raise money or entertain us at the next fundraiser. Interested in learning more about local landscapes and other renewable resources? Help out the Education Committee in creating workshops and other forums to learn and teach about the beautiful place in which we live. Good with computers? Many different committees could benefit from technical or graphic support. Interested in history? Our Barn Committee is always looking for others to collect data on all our amazing historical barns. And don't forget, now that spring is sprung (maybe) we are starting to talk about our community garden and how to make it even more successful than last year. We

are always in need of another pair of hands or another word of wisdom.

If you have interest in volunteering for any of these, or our other committees, feel free to call Deb at 802-226-8086, and I will pass your interest along to the Committee Chair.

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:

Deborah Harrison O'Brien  
c/o: P.O. Box 605  
Cavendish, VT 05142

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

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