

## *The Bullard Memorial Farm Association Newsletter*



7 Bullard Lane  
Holliston, MA 01746  
Since 1658

### *Happy Summer!*



Once again, time has passed at warp speed! Here it is July and time for another issue of the newsletter (actually, I am past due!).

In recent discussions with the Jay McFarland, a decision was made to keep the number of newsletter issues per year to two, a reasonable number for the editor to manage. Members can expect issues in the winter and the summer. If there is more information to report on, a special issue may be developed and distributed. I hope you enjoy reading the highlights, stories, and other content, and seeing the accompanying photos.

**Please** remember to send along articles for future issues of the newsletter to me (Jennifer MacDonald, Editor) at: [cemacd@maine.rr.com](mailto:cemacd@maine.rr.com). I am always looking for content to share!

**Enjoy!**

### *A Message From BMFA President, Jay McFarland*

*Let's face it, the Bullard Farm is a lot older than any of us will ever be. So, if the Farm is going to outlive us all, the least we can do is help make its golden years as comfortable as possible.*

*"How can I do that", you ask? Easy! Just, make the BMFA a beneficiary of your 401k. Probably the simplest and least costly way to help make sure the Farm survives so that your other beneficiaries benefit! Isn't that the whole point? Don't you want your grandchildren to enjoy the farm as you did? Contact your 401k administrator and ask for the form to make sure your hard earned dollars protect this incredibly valuable asset.*

*Thank you!*

### *BMFA Spring Meeting Recap June 9, 2018*



BMFA members gathered at the Farm on June 9 for the spring meeting and cookout. Including proxies, 38 voting members were represented.

## BMFA Spring Meeting Recap (cont'd)

Below are highlights of the meeting. Please refer to the Clerk's minutes sent on July 17 for further meeting details:

- **Bullard Birth:** Steven Bullard reported that his son, Adam Bullard and Adam's significant other, Kate Ernster, had a baby girl, Eva Jane Bullard, in Louisville, Kentucky on February 17, 2018. Steven and his wife, Janice, are proud first-time grandparents.
- **Welcome New Members!** Four new members were voted into the BMFA: Gold: Dana Pope and Carolyn Pope; Silver: Lindsay Hills and Taylor Hills; and Bronze: Abigail Fiske (an active member of the Educational Programs Committee), Blanche and Ronald DeLauro, and Steven and Janice Bullard.
- **Artifacts and Collections Committee:** Suzanne McFarland personally thanked Chip and Pam Thurlow, Betsy Bollenbacher, Suzanne Schaffer, Karen Leenhouts, and Nancy Kingsbury for their continued efforts and hard work. As of today, the first and second floor of the main 1794 house is done. The committee welcomes volunteers and is ready to train them.
- **Trail Usage Update:** As reported in the December, 2017 issue, the trails were opened to the public for passive use. A new kiosk will have a map and information about Association membership. The map will include the open trails, but not details about the property near the Association buildings. The cow tunnel on Bullard St. and the chutes for the old cow tunnel on Central St. remain, but the tunnel was filled in by the town for safety.

## Correction from the December, 2017 issue of the BMFA Newsletter



In the piece from Andy Allison (page 4 of the December, 2017 issue), it was stated that this photo was of Durinda, Carol, and Rob Wood's great-grandmother, Hattie Bullard Ellis. Durinda kindly pointed out that the young woman in the photo is their grandmother Helen Ellis Rice:

*The picture that accompanied the Andy Alison letter is of our grandmother Helen Ellis Rice, not*

*our great-grandmother Hattie Bullard Ellis.*

*We discovered that she must've gone out to California as a teenager to visit her uncle and family. Pretty amazing discovery. It is unmistakably our grandmother Helen.*

## Barn Project Progress!

On Thursday, May 3, 2018, the Bullard Memorial Farm's new building proposal received approval from the Holiston Planning Board, which was great news for the new building sub-committee (comprised of Doug Hathaway, Tara Hathaway, Suzanne McFarland, and Scott Hills)!



Sam Ziegler of SZ Restoration Carpentry, Inc. secured the needed permits, and broke ground and started excavation on Thursday, June 7. The Barn Project Committee is very happy with SZ Restoration Carpentry, Inc. It is estimated that the project will take four months. Be sure to visit our website and Facebook page to view the project's progress! Also, please consider contributing to this very important project, if you haven't already.





## Winter Walk with Marc Connelly

February 17, 2018

Submitted by Chip Thurlow



On a brisk Saturday (the day before the six inches of snow!) about 24 guests participated in another Winter Walk with local environmental specialist Marc Connelly. We gathered in the parking area where Marc described his plan to guide us into the woods across Central Street. Along the way, Marc spotted a variety of animal and plant adaptations to winter living conditions. The group frequently asked questions and chuckled at Marc's insightful and wry sense of humor.

BMFA members who attended were Chip and Pam Thurlow, Meredith and Rory Flynn, Melissa and Phil Audier, and the guide himself, Marc Connelly.

Below are some of the interesting facts we learned on the walk.



A Black Birch tree growing on top of a long ago deceased White Pine tree stump. In addition, Black Birch trees keep their leaves on during the

winter. Their sap can be used as a laxative!

If you carefully examine the New England stone walls and you see small stones wedged into the spaces next to the large stones, those



smaller stones were likely put there because there was a garden near that side of the stone wall. The gardeners put the stones there as they turned up in the garden over the many years of plowing and hoeing. Stones will work

their way to the surface gradually through the freezing and thawing of the soil.



Image of a puff ball that releases spores when squeezed.



Owl "pellets" (a.k.a. owl vomit) from eating a small rodent – squirrel, mouse, etc. Inside are the remains, such as fur and intact bones of the small rodent.

Marc showed the group the small jaw bone with the teeth still intact!

Marc described the effects of storm winds on trees. He pointed out "pillows and cradles" where a shallow depression is left where the roots were ripped out of the ground and a slight hump where the upturned roots eventually disintegrate. If



the trees fall to the east, the wind direction was likely from a common storm squall line. If the



trees fall to the north the likely cause was a hurricane.

Marc stated that moss doesn't only grow on the north side of a tree as the overhead

canopy might create enough shade for moss to grow in any direction.

Male deer will mark areas on the woods (called Scrapes) with both urine and glandular secretions both to attract females





and to mark their territory. "Scrapes are made when bucks paw the ground at the foot of a tree, creating a bare patch of earth on the ground, and then urinating on it. In order to leave behind the most obvious sign of his presence – which is important, since scrapes are a tool used to attract does during the rut – the buck urinates down his rear legs and onto his tarsal glands, which create a stronger and more pungent odor." (<http://www.wideopenspaces.com/deer-signs-every-hunter-recognize/>)

After the Winter Walk, the group gathered in the barn before a warming fire and enjoyed snacks while discussing the wealth of information shared by Marc. Marc suggested another walk in mid-April to visit the vernal pools on the Bullard Memorial Farm. The plan is to observe the variety of wild



life – salamanders, frogs, dragon flies, damsel flies, clams, snails, fresh water shrimp and various bugs and beetles that rely on the vernal pools for survival.

The Bullard Memorial Farm has two Manomet Center for Conservation Services certified vernal pools. Volunteers of the BMFA periodically monitor the activity in our vernal pools and forward the reports to the Manomet Center. We have monitoring forms for visitors to fill out and forward to the Manomet Center. Questions can be forwarded to the BMFA Education Committee.

## Wild Edible Plant Walk with Russ Cohen May 31, 2018

Submitted by Melissa Audier

Russ Cohen led a group of us on a walk through the farm property in search of wild edible plants. We found many—some we were able to nibble



on right there, while others it was too early in the season or too late. One of Russ's favorite edible wild nut is from the Shagbark Hickory tree, of which the Farm has three.

Since the trees don't produce the nuts until the fall, he had brought some with him for us to sample after the walk.



He also prepared some Black Birch tree tea which has the flavor of wintergreen, also found on our property. It was a beautiful day and everyone learned a lot of great information.

## A Bullard Gathering in Beverly Hills, CA

Suzanne McFarland shared these photos of a gathering of Bullard relatives (John & Barbara Bullard, Andy & Natalie Alison, Durinda Wood, and Suzanne & Jay McFarland) on June 24 at the South Beverly Grill in Beverly Hills. They discussed both new and old Bullard history, such as how the Thanksgiving rotation works, James Hovey's journals, and where the younger generations are and what they are up to). It is really great to see the Bullard connection in action!



## A Visit with Dr. James Hovey Bullard



On Friday, March 9, Durinda Wood attended Andy Allison's portrayal of Dr. James Hovey Bullard at the Anaheim Heritage Center. She shared these images, as well as the fact that "I

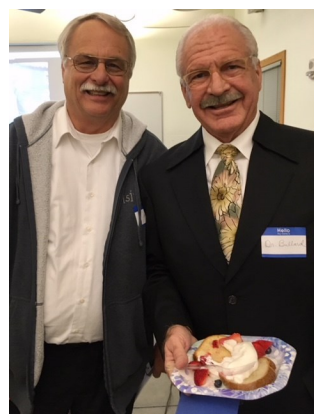
learned so much and it was an extremely entertaining and informative event."



"Dr. Bullard" and Durinda



"Dr. Bullard" and Jane Newell  
of the Anaheim Heritage  
Center



John Anson Bullard III and  
Andy Allison (cousins and  
both grandsons of the West  
Coast John Anson Bullard).  
Andy lives in Laguna Beach;  
John lives in Anaheim.



A photo of the original Dr. James  
Hovey Bullard on the laptop and  
screen in the background,  
and his descendant, Andy Allison, in  
full character for his presentation  
on 3/9/18.



A sampling of the 63 years  
of journals kept by Hovey.

## BMFA Member Reminders

As mentioned in the BMFA Clerk's February Update, recruitment efforts for a development officer and members of the Education Committee are under way.

**Development Officer:** the BMFA is hoping to better create, nurture, and maintain the relationship of the Association and its members. The Development Officer would coordinate with the Clerk, Board of Directors, members of the Nominating Committee, and the website administrator, as needed. The tasks of the development officer would be as follows:

- Assist the Clerk in updating the master contact database by seeking out missing or incorrect information
- Check in with lapsed members to reconnect them with the Association
- Write thank you notes for gifts and donations
- Assist with fundraising and deferred giving efforts
- Recommend members for committees, including the Board of Directors
- Give ideas to the website administrator

If you are interested in this role, please contact the Clerk or a Director.

**Educational Programs Committee** is seeking new members. This is a great opportunity to get involved with the Farm! Committee members seek out potential programs to be held at the Farm and help host events that are open to the public. Past events have included guided nature walks, historical speakers, folk bands, craft workshops, and more! The committee always welcomes new ideas for programs. For more information, or to volunteer, contact the chairperson, Tara Hathaway at [bmfaprograms@gmail.com](mailto:bmfaprograms@gmail.com).



Tim has recently rebuilt the gate and arched trellis, and the result is beautiful!



## American Chestnut Seedling Update, 6/1/18

*Submitted by Chip Thurlow*

On November 5, 2016, a group of excited volunteers planted five American Chestnut tree seedling at the Bullard Memorial Farm. These hybrid seedlings are 94% American Chestnut and 6% Chinese Chestnut that is immune to the fungal blight that has killed off most of the native American Chestnut trees.

The representatives of the American Chestnut Foundation (TACF) – RI/MA Chapter - Lois Breault-Milican - President, TACF RI/MA Chapter, and members Denis Milican and T. Gray Curtis, along with BMFA members Scott Hills, George Fiske, Peggy Emslie (and her friend Jean Goff), Chip Thurlow, and our Farm Caretakers, Tim and Bridgett Sanders, were present for this historic occasion.

Over the past year and a half, the seedlings have produced more branches and healthy leaves. We have been vigilant for winter moth and gypsy moth infestations and potential damage by deer and other critters that would like to munch on the leaves and bark. Thus, the necessity for the protective wire enclosure around the seedlings. In addition, if necessary, we will spray BT (*bacillus thurengiensis*) to protect the leaves from munching insects.

Below is a chronological view of the BMFA American Chestnut Seedlings over the past 18 months.



Protective Wire Cages



November 5, 2016



June 2, 2017



May 29, 2018

## New Ping Pong Table in the Barn!

Peter and Joan Hood donated a brand new ping pong table, paddles, and balls in memory of Peter's brother, John Elkins Hood. John loved games and loved giving unusual presents at Christmas. We hope everyone at the farm enjoys playing on it.



Thank you, Peter and Joan!

## Calling all Bullards

**Reminder:** As always, please send any and all member news items and photos to Jean Hood. Be sure to include a date. She will include them in the BMFA scrapbooks. Jean's address is: 1 Oaknoll Court, Iowa City, Iowa 52246. Thank you!

## House Committee Wish List

The House Committee is requesting lamps in working order that are of an old fashioned style versus modern. Please reach out to Melissa Audier at [Audier@verizon.net](mailto:Audier@verizon.net), if you would like to donate these. Thank you!

## Visit the BMF website

Take some time to peruse our website:

[www.bullardmemorialfarm.org](http://www.bullardmemorialfarm.org). Ken Wood updates the website frequently and encourages and welcomes any feedback to improve the site.

If you have any news items, photographs, etc., please submit them directly to Ken at: [woodk@norwalkps.org](mailto:woodk@norwalkps.org)

**Be sure to mark your calendars!**

**Fall Meeting**

**Join us for the Fall meeting on**

**Saturday, October 13**

**We hope to see you there!!**