

Members and Friends

THE CHESTER LAND TRUST

invites you to the

31st ANNUAL MEETING

Tuesday, November 13, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.

The Chester Meeting House

Agenda

Priscilla Robinson, *President*

Welcome to All

Recognition and Brief Business Discussion

Guest Speaker – 7:00 p.m.

Professor Robert Thorson

From Stone Walls to Kettle Ponds: Finding Your Own Refuge in Nature

Please read other side

Adjournment

Coffee, Cider & Desserts

RSVP probinson02@snet.net

This event is free. Due to limited seating, it will be on a RSVP or first come basis.

The Chester Land Trust Mission:

The Chester Land Trust is a non-profit organization which exists to conserve and preserve our town's fragile and unique environment. Being within the Connecticut River Valley, our charge is not only conserving land, but also our impact on the Connecticut River. We are stewards of several Chester properties. The Land Trust acquires open space by either gift or purchase in order to promote our environment and preserve the character of our town. It is through these efforts that we can provide to our community the recreational and educational opportunities to today's citizens as well as those to come. For more information, please visit us online at www.chesterlandtrust.org or email Priscilla Robinson at probinson02@snet.net.

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Thank you for your consistent support of the Chester Land Trust. Please remit dues in the enclosed envelope. This may also be done the day of the event. Membership fees are: **\$20.00** - Individual/ **\$30.00** - Family/ **\$100.00** Friend/ **\$500.00** - Life. Any and all donation amounts are accepted and greatly appreciated. Please include your **email** and current mailing address on the remittance envelope so we may send you our 2019 schedule of upcoming programs and events. The Board of Trustees of The Chester Land Trust thanks you for your support and interest in our Chester environment and your generosity to help to preserve it.

From Stone Walls to Kettle Ponds: Finding Your Own Refuge in Nature

Professor Robert M. Thorson

“There is something infinitely healing in the repeated refrains of nature – the assurance that dawn comes after night, and spring after winter.”

This quote from the homepage of the Chester Land Trust is by Rachel Carson (1923-1964), whose 1962 book *Silent Spring* launched the modern environmental movement. She was an ardent reader of Henry David Thoreau’s *Walden* (1854), arguably America’s most canonical work of literary nonfiction, a copy of which she kept nearby for devotional readings.

During Robert M. Thorson’s presentation at the annual meeting of the Chester Land Trust, he will explore the link between Carson and Thoreau by giving special attention to the bridging influence of Connecticut’s own Edwin Way Teale (1899-1980). In 1941, he began modeling his writing life on Thoreau, and in 1949 he began nurturing Carson’s writing life in the same direction.

In *Walden*, Thoreau celebrates New England’s humble fieldstone wall for reasons highlighted in Thorson’s three books on the subject: *Stone by Stone*, *Exploring Stone Walls*, and *Stone Wall Secrets*. He also celebrates water scenery for reasons highlighted in Thorson’s three books on Thoreau: *Walden’s Shore*, *The Boatman*, and *The Guide to Walden Pond*.

During his presentation, Thorson will explore the method Thoreau, Teale, and Carson used to enhance their individual refuges in Nature, one that you can apply to your own personal landscape, regardless of where it is. Q&A will follow.

Signed copies of Thorson’s books will be available as a fundraiser for the Chester Land Trust.

