

Blue Hills Enthusiast Says Volunteering “Just Makes Sense”



Volunteer Liz Tran with her faithful friend, Milo.

Liz Tran has been enjoying the Blue Hills for more than a decade. “I started coming to the Blue Hills while I was still in high school,” Liz says. “That seems like such a long time ago!” Because the Reservation was so special to her, she decided to join Friends of the Blue Hills and volunteer with the organization.

“I frequent the Reservation a lot, so why not volunteer? I’m an outdoor enthusiast, so I like to see places like the Blue Hills be taken care of so we all can enjoy it now and in the future. My fiancé Chris and I often pick up trash we spot along the way and carry it out - carry in and out is a rule we respect.”

If you’ve seen a Friends’ Facebook post or if you read a tweet inviting you to a

Friends event, that was probably from Liz. She is our volunteer social media guru. “I want to grow professionally by contributing my social media skills,” Liz explained. “I don’t get to use my social media skills in my full-time job, so I enjoy using them in my spare time.”

For Liz, volunteering with the Friends of the Blue Hills just makes sense. “Nonprofit organizations are always looking for volunteers, and I like to volunteer for causes I’m passionate about. The Friends gives me the flexibility to help when I can.”

Liz also volunteers for various events sponsored by the Friends, including the recent Green Up the Blue Hills and the Boots N Brews hike. And her favorite spot in the Blue Hills? “Any spot with a view. Probably our favorite spot is Buck Hill.” Great choice, Liz!

Join Us at Our Annual Celebration!

Thursday, October 8 7:00 - 9:00 pm Milton Hoosic Club, 193 Central Avenue, Milton

Please join us for the Annual Celebration of the Friends of the Blue Hills on Thursday, October 8! We will be celebrating the Blue Hills, our members and friends, and everything we have accomplished together over the past year!

Enjoy delicious hors d’oeuvres from Off the Vine Catering, cash bar, silent auction, beer tasting from Blue Hills Brewery, and much more! Tickets are \$35 each if purchased by October 2, and \$40 each at the door. Tickets can be purchased in advance on our website: FriendsoftheBlueHills.org/Celebration2015.

We will also be honoring our 2015 Community Partners:

Bill Baino- Milton Public Schools

Deborah Felton – Fuller Village

L.L. Bean-Legacy Place

Melissa Horrs Pond- Quincy Department of Planning and Community Development

About Our Speaker

Carol Sanchez, the newly appointed Commissioner of the Department of Conservation and Recreation, will deliver the keynote address and share her vision for how we can work together for the Blue Hills.



Go Out and Play: Check Every Day!

Over 300 fourth grade 'Future Problem Solvers' from Milton Public Schools helped their community learn about Lyme disease this spring. Friends of the Blue Hills teamed up with Bill Baino, a teacher at Glover School, and Milton Public Health Director Carolyn Kinsella to introduce students to the signs and symptoms of Lyme disease and how the increase in Lyme disease has been linked to the declining health of our forests. Students then shared their new knowledge by designing posters to help educate the community.

Some of the posters were displayed over the summer at Milton Town Hall, Cunningham Park Hall and the Milton Public Library.

This is the fourth year that Bill Baino has worked with Friends of the Blue Hills on this event. In recognition of his commitment, the Friends will be presenting him with their Community Partners Award at their fall Annual Celebration (see article on page 1).



Fourth grade problem solver Annabel Dunnington.

Sign up for Monthly Giving and You May Win a \$250 Shopping Spree at L.L. Bean!

If you love the Blue Hills and want to support the important work that Friends of the Blue Hills does to preserve and protect the Reservation, please consider becoming a **Blue Hills Sustainer**. By making a monthly donation to FBH, your tax deductible donation will provide a steady and reliable source of income for FBH and will ensure that your membership never lapses! Of course, you may stop the donations at any time by calling 781-828-1805 or emailing us at info@friendsofthebluehills.org.

As an added incentive, when you enroll in our monthly giving program, you will be entered into a raffle for a \$250 gift certificate for L.L. Bean!

Thank you for your generous support!

The Friends of the Blue Hills newsletter is produced four times a year.

Editors: Anne Comber, Judy Jacobs, Barbara Kirby

Layout: Donald Souliere

Visit us on the web at www.FriendsoftheBlueHills.org or call 781-828-1805 for membership, maps and schedule information. P.O. Box 416, Milton, MA 02186

YES! I want to protect the Blue Hills Reservation!

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Basic Membership – \$30 | <input type="checkbox"/> Ponkapoag Protector – \$50 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hancock Hill Hero – \$100 | <input type="checkbox"/> Skyline Steward – \$250 |
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Payment Frequency (Choose one)

- Lump sum donation
 Monthly donation of \$ _____

Become a Sustainer: Yes, have this gift renew automatically

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Please mail to Friends of the Blue Hills
P.O. Box 416, Milton, MA 02186

You may also donate through our secure server at FriendsoftheBlueHills.org.

Thank you for your generous support!

Win the picnic of a lifetime!

Imagine your very favorite place in the Blue Hills...is it the top of Buck Hill? The flowering lily pads on St. Moritz Pond? Fisherman's Beach at Ponkapoag?

Now imagine inviting five friends or family members to join you for a mouth-watering picnic at this beautiful spot, catered by the award-winning restaurant The Plate in Milton!

Your prize also includes outdoor entertaining tableware for six donated by Williams-Sonoma at Legacy Place!



Raffle tickets are \$15 each or 3/\$35 and can be purchased online on our secure website: FriendsoftheBlueHills.org/Celebration2015. (Some restrictions apply, please visit our website for more information.)

Every detail will be taken care of...Your only job will be deciding who you will invite!



Sunset Hike to the Top of Great Blue

Please join us on Saturday, October 17, from 4-7 p.m. for a spectacular hike to view the sunset during peak foliage season. Bring your families, buddies or dates for this self-guided hike to the top of Great Blue. We'll provide complimentary snacks at the bottom of the mountain to give you energy for the walk up and hot cider and apples at the top. You can even bring a picnic dinner to eat at the summit! This is your only opportunity to hike down Great Blue at night; after sunset, the ski area lights will be on to guide your way down.

For safety reasons, everyone must check in at the ski area at the base of the hill prior to hiking up. Park at Blue Hills Ski Area, 4001 Washington St., Canton (Blue Hills Trailside Museum South parking lot). The Blue Hills Observatory will be open from 4-7 p.m. and will provide tours and viewing for a nominal charge.

The sunset hike is sponsored by Blue Hills Ski Area and the Friends of the Blue Hills.

For more information, visit www.FriendsoftheBlueHills.org or email info@FriendsoftheBlueHills.org.



Photo by Brian MacLean

Is the Blue Hills in Your Will?

By remembering the Friends of the Blue Hills in your Will, you will become part of a select group of people committed to protecting and preserving the Blue Hills forever... you'll join the Skyline Society. For more information about the Skyline Society, visit FriendsoftheBlueHills.org/skyline-society or call Judy Lehrer Jacobs at 781-828-1805.



Revealing the Origins of Houghton's and Ponkapoag Ponds

Les Tyrala, a local registered geologist, has given a number of special walks through the Blue Hills to discuss the origin of the Reservation's bedrock and how



the glacial age helped to sculpt these rocks. Several years ago, Les appeared in an article in our newsletter about this topic, and today we are discussing a related subject, the formation of Ponkapoag and Houghton's Ponds.

FBH: What is the origin of these two ponds?

Les: Houghton's Pond and Ponkapoag Pond are considered glacial kettle holes, according to the United States Geological Survey (USGS) and local professors. Kettle holes were formed when blocks of ice from the last glacier became embedded or covered by outwash materials (late stage sands and gravels) during the final melting and retreat of the glacier. More specifically, kettles are landforms occurring as the result of blocks of ice "calving" (breaking away) from the front of a

receding glacier and becoming partially or even entirely buried. A trip to Iceland today would show kettles actively forming.

FBH: Why are these kettles filled with water and how big and deep are kettle ponds?

Les: These blocks of ice, ranging in size from a few acres to as much as a thousand acres, melted and ultimately left depressions that eventually filled with fresh water when the local groundwater rose to intersect them.

In addition to the local groundwater levels, there may be some spring water entering the ponds via fractures in the underlying bedrock. The depths of kettle ponds range from a few feet to tens of feet. Ponds, such as Houghton's and Ponkapoag, are about 15 to 40 feet deep, while Walden Pond is just shy of 100 feet.



Ponkapoag Pond is one of two kettle holes in the Blue Hills.

FBH: How old are the kettle ponds?

Kettle ponds are generally between 10,000 and 13,000 years old. The age is determined by radio-carbon dating of the remains of the earliest organic lake materials in the deepest layers of sediment. Radio-carbon dating is used as a clock, because it's unaffected by physical and chemical changes in the earth and can be corrected for atmospheric changes.

FBH: Are kettle ponds widespread in Massachusetts?

Les: As we go southeasterly to Cape Cod, the frequency of kettle holes increases. This is due to the increasing

thicknesses of deposited sands and gravel as we near the now-offshore terminal moraine, marking the farthest advance of the ice sheet. This ice sheet originated in the Laurentide region of Quebec. The U.S. Geological Survey has calculated that Cape Cod contains about 365 freshwater kettle ponds.

Honoring Founding Members of the Hilltop Society

This summer, a special group of Friends were celebrated as the founding members of the Hilltop Society. This new club recognizes generous members who have given \$1,000 or more to the Friends of the Blue Hills. Society members were honored at a special cocktail party at the home of board member Laura Beebe, whose property abuts the Blue Hills Reservation.

For more information about the Hilltop Society, please contact Judy Lehrer Jacobs at 781-828-1805 or judy@FriendsoftheBlueHills.org.

Buying Something on Amazon?

Your purchases on Amazon could help the Blue Hills!

Just go to [smile.amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com)... designate the Friends of the Blue Hills as the charity to receive donations... and shop as you normally would! You only need to designate the charity the first time – and the Blue Hills will benefit each time you shop at [smile.amazon.com](https://www.smile.amazon.com)!



Please join Les on his next walk:
"Taken for Granite" Quincy Quarries Geology Walk

Sunday, September 27th, 2:00 – 3:30 PM

Sturdy footwear and the ability to climb rugged, narrow trails are required. *Space is limited to 15 attendees, and pre-registration is required. RSVP to raymond.f.mckinnon@state.ma.us.*

Fishing Fest is Great Fun!

Anglers young and old came out for Fishing Fest, and the fish were biting! Staff from the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife were on hand, loaning out fishing poles, offering free bait, and teaching the fine art of casting. The Friends of the Blue Hills offered juggling clinics and helped budding artists create butterflies, turtles and fish to take home.

Fishing Fest was sponsored by the Department of Conservation and Recreation, the DFW, and the Friends of the Blue Hills.



Conor Lynch of Milton admires the fish caught by his friend Jack Long also of Milton.



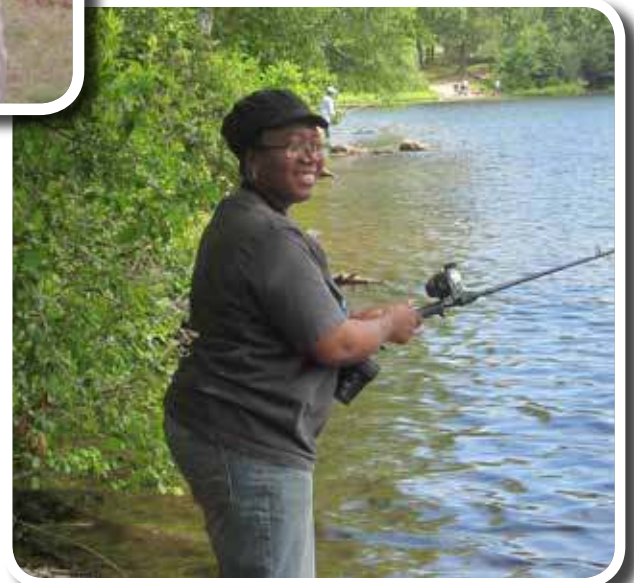
Nick McDonough of Canton proudly shows the fish he caught with Mike Giles from DFW helping out.



Jason Wang, Liying Sung, and Shunguang Wang from Carlisle are ready to fish!



The Day family from Roslindale enjoyed fishing and the crafts!



Luletta Malcolm of Mattapan caught two fish!

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Don't Miss our Annual Celebration!
Thursday, October 8, at the Milton Hoosic Club.
Please join us for this special evening of
food, friends and festivities.
Buy your tickets today at
FriendsOfTheBlueHills.org/Celebration2015



Friends of the Blue Hills
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