

SUDBURY VALLEY TRUSTEES

# Annual Report

2018

CONSERVATION, COLLABORATION, AND COMMUNITY SINCE 1953



## Conservation in Action



Dear SVT members,

Partnerships were a central theme in nearly all of SVT's work during Fiscal Year 2018 (FY18). Whether we were working with municipal officials to purchase a cherished natural area, teaming up with neighbors to restore habitat, or linking arms with dozens of volunteers to clean up after 2018's big winter storms, collaboration was essential to our success. Together with our wonderful partners, we made great strides in protecting natural areas, wildlife habitats, and working farms for the benefit of all.



### Land Protection Highlights

#### FY18 saw the successful completion of some long-term land protection projects

**Great Oak Farm, Berlin.** In April, after several years of planning, the Bentzen family generously sold a conservation restriction (CR) at a bargain price to SVT and the Town of Berlin, and they also donated a small parcel to the Town. Now, 41 acres of sweeping pasture and woodland are permanently protected, and the public will be able to enjoy the scenic farm from a new perimeter trail.

**Mount Pisgah, Berlin.** SVT and the Town of Berlin have long worked to conserve land on Mount Pisgah, and in June, the Town purchased 84 acres, including a 76-acre parcel on the eastern face of the mountain. SVT helped the Town secure a federal grant for the purchase, and we now hold a CR on this parcel.

#### Wayside Forest, Framingham.

A generous landowner, the contributions of numerous donors, and our partnership with the City of Framingham made this project possible. After decades of protecting their many acres of land in northwest Framingham, George and D.D. Harrington sold us the last 52 acres for about half their market value. These acres are an important addition to the extensive network of protected lands on the Framingham-Sudbury line.

**Assisting Others.** A big part of SVT's work involves assisting our local partners in their efforts to protect lands. In FY18, we helped transfer 90 acres of general municipal land in Boylston to the care of the local Conservation Commission, and we assisted the Town of Acton and the Acton Conservation Trust with the protection of

12 acres along a tributary of Heath Hen Meadow Brook. You will not see an SVT sign at properties like these, but our behind-the-scenes work was critical to their protection.

### Stewardship Highlights

#### Our Stewardship staff made great strides toward improving wildlife habitat in FY18:

**Controlling Invasive Species, Concord.** With funding from grants, private donors, and Concord's Community Preservation Fund—and with the help of many volunteers—we fought invasives at Gowing's Swamp. We converted a field of invasive Japanese knotweed into a field of beautiful black-eyed Susans to improve the ecological health of this unusual habitat, which is also known as "Thoreau's Bog."

#### Creating New Habitat, Framingham.

Paige Dolci, SVT's AmeriCorps Land Stewardship Coordinator, worked with Framingham Parks and Rec and Big Brothers Big Sisters of Framingham to plant a garden of native pollinator-friendly plants at Farm Pond Park.

**CR Stewardship.** In 2018, we created a Land Steward position and hired Kristin O'Brien to manage our quickly growing portfolio of CRs. In addition to regular monitoring, Kristin will support sound stewardship on these privately owned lands.

**Collaborative Communication.** To help dog owners understand their

responsibilities as good visitors to conservation land, we partnered with several conservation administrators and the Massachusetts Land Trust Coalition to create a brochure that provides a unified message for natural area managers to share with dog walkers.

*(continued on inside flap)*



SVT helped the Town of Berlin purchase a 76-acre parcel on Mount Pisgah that includes the popular North View, which has been renamed the Warren S. Oberg Overlook in honor of a former owner. On a clear day, the Overlook affords views of the surrounding countryside and the Boston skyline.

# Conservation in Action (continued from front)

## Outreach Highlights

**From recreational outings to workshops and volunteer opportunities, we offered programs for people of all ages and of diverse interests in FY18.**

**Trail Walks.** SVT staff and volunteers guided nearly 700 people on hikes that explored the region's forests, farms, hilltops, and meadows.

**Volunteer Engagement.** More than 200 people donated over 3,300 hours of service to carry out a wide variety of conservation tasks. These dedicated volunteers worked in our office, cleared and maintained trails, built informational kiosks for our trail heads, created pollinator meadows, served on committees, represented us at public events, led programs, and photographed our beautiful landscapes.

## Providing People with Opportunities to Enjoy Our Properties.

During FY18, we opened trails at Mainstone Farm in Wayland, Saddle Hill and Highland Park in Hopkinton, and Forty Caves in Berlin and Clinton. We also gave a facelift to many of our trail kiosks, and we printed new map brochures for 37 properties—17 of which had never had maps before.

Without the support of our 2,900 members and 200 volunteers—and without the wisdom and efforts of our many partners—none of this work would have been possible. Thank you.

Andrew Magee  
President

Lisa Vernegaard  
Executive Director

## Our Mission

Sudbury Valley Trustees works to protect natural areas and farmland for wildlife and people in the 36 communities that surround the Sudbury, Assabet, and Concord Rivers.

## About Us

Founded in 1953, Sudbury Valley Trustees is supported today by a membership of more than 2,900 households and businesses. Working in collaboration with landowners, local conservation commissions, and government agencies, SVT pursues its land protection goals through land acquisition and stewardship, advocacy, and education.

As of the conclusion of FY18, SVT owns, through gift and purchase, more than 2,300 acres in 18 communities. In addition, SVT holds conservation restrictions on more than 2,600 acres and has been instrumental in preserving several thousand acres now protected by public agencies. Altogether, SVT is responsible for the protection and care of more than 4,900 acres on 168 properties, which include wetlands, sensitive habitats, and more than 60 miles of trails.

Sudbury Valley Trustees 18 Wolbach Road, Sudbury, MA 01776  
Tel: 978-443-5588 • Fax: 978-443-2333 • [svt@svtweb.org](mailto:svt@svtweb.org) • [www.svtweb.org](http://www.svtweb.org)

SVT's Region



## Board of Directors For FY18

### PRESIDENT

**Andrew Magee**, Acton

### VICE PRESIDENT

**Karin Paquin**, Marlborough

### TREASURER

**Bruce Osterling**, Sudbury

### CLERK

**Peter Martin**, Northborough

### ASSISTANT CLERK

**Lyell Slade**, Concord

### ASSISTANT TREASURER

**Lisa Vernegaard**, Maynard

**Colin Anderson**, Sudbury

**Paul Bakstran**, Berlin

**Brian Clew**, Framingham

**Sherrill Cline**, Sudbury

**Steven Correia**, Wayland

**Molly Cutler**, Harvard

**Sean Fair**, Wayland

**Richard Forman**, Concord

**Marylynn Gentry**, Wayland

**Chris Jenny**, Wayland

**Robert Kamen**, Sudbury

**Ruth Kennedy Sudduth**, Stow

**John Mastrobattista**,  
Framingham

**Richard Perkins**, Stow

**Lisa Valone**, Wayland

## Staff For FY18

**Lisa Vernegaard**,

Executive Director

**Christa Collins**,

Director of Land Protection

**Ashley Davies**,

Senior Land Protection  
Specialist

**Laura Mattei**,

Director of Stewardship

**Kristin O'Brien**, Land Steward

**Debbie Pullen**,

Membership & Outreach  
Coordinator

**Michael Sanders**,

Director of Membership

**Deborah Sargent**,

Communications & Office  
Manager

**Dan Stimson**,

Assistant Director of  
Stewardship

**Kate Tyrrell**,

Business Manager

**Chris Wilson**,

Wolbach Caretaker

### AMERICORPS MEMBERS

**Paige Dolci**

**Matt Donovan**

**Tempe Staples**

### ANNUAL REPORT DESIGN

**Jason Fairchild**

Tuesdale Group

## Financial Overview

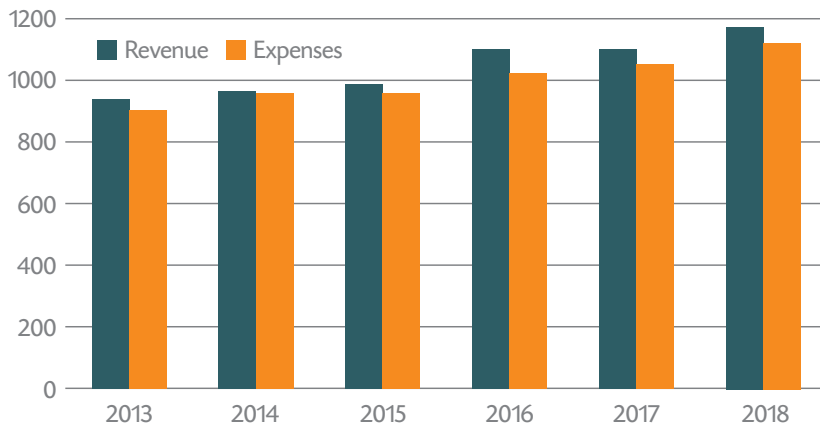
SVT is grateful for the generosity of its members who provided 60% of our operating revenue. These contributions, as well as responsible control of expenses, resulted in a surplus of \$60,000 for Fiscal Year 2018 (FY18).

In addition to this support of our day-to-day work, over \$800,000 was raised for land protection projects and over \$40,000 for our stewardship endowments. Through your support, as well as through contributions from foundations and grants, SVT conserved 177 acres on three properties in FY18, and we assisted other conservation entities in protecting additional acres.

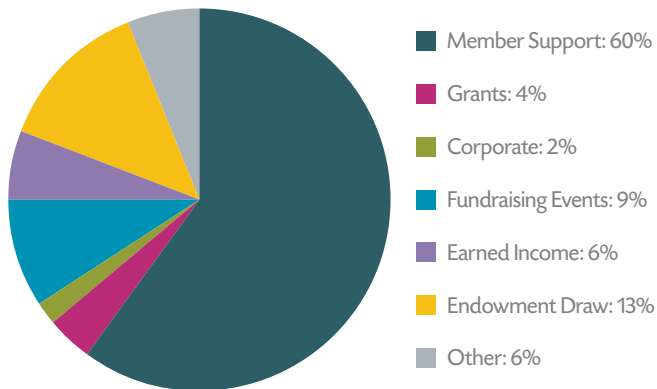
Our Finance Committee conservatively managed our investments, resulting in a \$523,000, or 4.5%, return on our investments.

SVT will continue to manage its resources and contributions responsibly while pursuing its mission to preserve and steward land. We welcome your financial questions and comments.

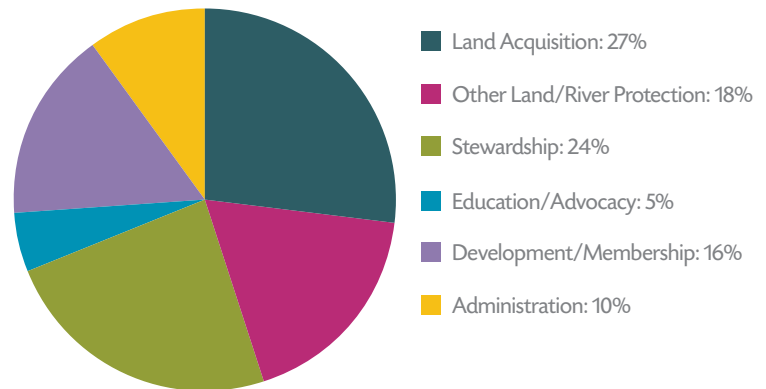
### Annual Operating Revenue and Expenses, 2013–2018



### Sources of Operating Revenue



### Expenses (From IRS Form 990)



## FY18 Financial Summary

(in thousands of dollars)

### Revenue

Member Support	\$708
Grants	45
Corporate	26
Fundraising Events	103
Earned Income	65
Endowment Draw	155
Other	72
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>1,174</b>

### Expenses

Personnel	767
Non-Personnel	347
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>1,114</b>

### Net Income

**\$60**

## FY18 Investments, Market Value

(in thousands of dollars)

<b>Beginning Balance</b>	\$9,980
Contributions/Other	143
Transfers/Use of Funds	219
Unrealized/Realized Gains	523
<b>Total Investments</b>	<b>\$10,865</b>

Copies of the audited financial statements are available upon request.

## Committee Members For FY18

### Benefit

Margaret Estes  
Andi Jenny  
Ellie Johnson  
Susan Kurys  
Debra Sager  
Sonja Strong

Bob May

Bruce Osterling, *Chair*  
Chris Riley  
David Sette-Ducati  
Ross Trimby  
Ted York

### Governance

Sherrill Cline  
Molly Cutler, *Chair*  
Marylynn Gentry  
Andy Magee  
Karin Paquin  
Dick Perkins

### Land Protection

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Marylynn Gentry  
Ruth Kennedy  
Sudduth  
Andy Magee  
Peter Martin  
David Moore  
Sue Moses  
Dick Perkins  
Greg Peterson  
Morgan Wilson

### Marketing and Outreach

Rosemarie Comrie  
Neela de Zoysa  
Sean Fair  
John Mastrobattista,  
*Chair*  
Brett Peruzzi  
Eric Seaberg  
Laura Spear  
Jane Walsh

### Stewardship

Whitney Beals  
Rebecca Cutting  
Bill Fadden  
Richard Forman  
Michele Grzenda  
Robert Kamen  
Tom McGowan  
Karin Paquin, *Chair*  
Emily Wheeler

### Wolbach Facilities

Brian Clew  
Richard Dinjian  
Bob May  
Arthur Milliken, *Chair*  
Bruce Osterling  
William Sterling

### Finance

Bob Anderson  
Colin Anderson  
Jay Atlas  
Paul Bakstran  
Brian Clew

# Our Donors

We are grateful for the generosity of our 2,900 members, foundations, business sponsors, and in-kind contributors. Listed below are those who made contributions between July 1, 2017, and June 30, 2018. Due to space limitations, we are only able to list donors of \$250 and above. We extend sincere thanks to all of our contributors.



**PROTECT:** To garner local support for our projects, SVT has been leading walks and educational tours of properties *before* we protect them. In June, we led a birdwatching outing at Wayside Forest in Framingham prior to purchasing the property.

## Contributions of \$10,000 and up

Anonymous (4)  
The Boston Foundation  
Forrester Research Inc.  
Cile and Bill Hicks  
Patricia and Donald Jones  
Robert Kamen and Trudi Veldman  
Litowitz Foundation Inc.  
Madeline Leone and John Mastrobattista  
The Stevenson Family Charitable Trust  
Jim and Lisa Valone  
Stephen Winthrop and M. Jane Williamson

## Contributions of \$5,000–\$9,999

Anonymous (1)  
Colin and Melody Anderson  
Brian and Alison Clew  
Ms. Susan Copeland  
The Helen G. Hauben Foundation  
Andi and Chris Jenny  
Dr. Andrew S. Magee  
Andre and Christine Navez  
Margaret F. Norwood  
Drs. Winifred and Leroy Parker  
Tomasz L. Schellenberg and Grazyna Schellenberg  
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## Contributions of \$2,500–\$4,999

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Karen Yeowell and Mark O'Connell  
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 John and Maureen Yauckoes  
 Theodore York  
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 Stephen and Anne Ziobrowski

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 Mary Jane Gentry  
 B. Anthony King  
 Judy Marcus  
 Charlotte and Clayton Rix  
 Shirley Rohan  
 Edith M. Stokoy  
 Wilfred and Mildred Turenne  
 John Wolbach

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ACE Hardware-Wayland Home and Design  
 Colin and Melody Anderson  
 ATA Cycles  
 Paul Bakstran  
 Jeff and Christa Collins  
 Patty Ann and John Flint  
 Richard and Barbara Forman  
 William Gangi  
 GSD Rides  
 The Hancock Inn & Fox Tavern  
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 Wegmans

### **Individual Land Protection and Stewardship Projects**

**\$10,000 and up**  
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 Donna and Art Appel  
 Marshall and Nikki Bartlett  
 Brian and Alison Clew  
 Mr. Devens H. Hamlen  
 Cile and Bill Hicks  
 Prof. Donald Hindley  
 Mr. and Mrs. John Landry  
 Madeline Leone and John Mastrobattista

**\$5,000–\$9,999**  
 Richard and Terry Albright  
 Mr. David Cutler  
 Chris and Molly Cutler  
 William DePietri  
 Mr. Anthony Howes  
 Mr. Adam J. Landry  
 Edward and Elisa Riedl  
 Summer Star Foundation

**\$2,500–\$4,999**  
 Anonymous (1)  
 Carolyn and Will Fox  
 Luciana Suran  
 Karen and Michael Tichnor

**\$1,000–\$4,999**  
 Anonymous (1)  
 Ms. Helen Alcalá  
 Paul Angelli and Susan Bringola  
 Paul and Annette Bakstran  
 Louise and John Bendel



**CARE: The native plants that provide habitat for local birds and insects—our “pollinators”—are losing out to development and invasive species. To reverse this trend, SVT has created gardens filled with native wildflowers. In May, students from Lincoln-Sudbury High School helped enlarge the wildflower garden at Wolbach Farm.**



**CONNECT:** In addition to our general trail walks, SVT also led numerous walks with specific themes, such as glacial features, beavers, and mushrooms. In May, Neela de Zoysa, an SVT volunteer and a respected botanist, led a wildflower walk in Sudbury.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Berthoud  
 Charles and Sarah Cabot  
 Mr. Malcolm Chellquist  
 Rebecca and John Cutting  
 Margaret and Scott Estes  
 Ms. Carol Fassino  
 Steven and Andrea Frank  
 Sherwin and Vivian Greenblatt  
 Joe Hale  
 Greg and Itsuko Herrema  
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 Jeff and Kathy Klinger  
 Yasuko and Richard Mattione  
 Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Miceli  
 David and Jaye Moore  
 Ms. Mary Sue Nutt  
 Gregory Pazour  
 Martin and Anita Rupich  
 Bill and Karen Sample  
 Rajeeva and Ritu Singh  
 Mr. Douglas Stephan  
 Carlota and Eugenio Suran  
 Scott Suttinger and Carolina Martinez  
 Chris and Jan Swain  
 Donna and Richard Tizard  
 Kevin Toto  
 Marc and Nadia Ullman  
 Mr. Denis Vaughan and  
 Ms. Bridget O'Brien  
 Mrs. Anna Vernegaard  
 Ms. Lisa Vernegaard  
 Jennifer Von Briesen and Kamal Soor  
 Elizabeth Wright

**\$500–\$999**

Anonymous (5)  
 John Aney and Jessica Simons  
 Mr. David Bates and  
 Ms. Margaret McKane  
 Susan and Tom Beck  
 Ms. Autumn Brown Gandt  
 Steven and Robin Carlin  
 David and Susan Clark  
 Ms. Ursula Collinson  
 Mr. Frederick Findlay  
 Jeffrey and Sandra Gonneville  
 Pamela Keeney and David Panich  
 Manisha Kher and Manoj Padki  
 Laurie Dombrowsky Lee  
 Ms. Eve Lewinger

Will and Judy Mack  
 Robert and Mary O'Connor  
 Mr. Richard A. Pabst  
 John Shambroom and Donna Savastio  
 Charles Sisitsky and Robin Kaye  
 Lorraine and Bob Stone  
 Lagniappe Fund of the  
 Foundation for MetroWest  
 John and Edith Wilson

**\$250–\$499**

Anonymous (4)  
 Fenna Beverly  
 Ms. Gerda Chalfin  
 Ms. Jodie Conway  
 Traci and Jeff D'Antonio  
 Maria DeFelice  
 Nancy Diessner and Daniel Feldman  
 Mr. Arthur Ensroth  
 Mr. James Georges  
 Dr. Tammy C. Harris  
 The Henderson Family  
 Ms. Linda Hoffman and Mr. Blase Provitola  
 Mr. Joseph Holmes  
 Joan and Bruce Johnson  
 Janusz Konrad  
 Ms. Wendy Kornbliet  
 Carol and Martin Levin  
 Lynn Lidz  
 Jessica Mooraj  
 Jonathan and Mary Rosenstein  
 Kimball Simpson and Kate Donaghue  
 Frank and Mary Wojciechowski  
 Ralph and Corinne Woodward  
 David and Angela Yildiz

**Bequests**

Elaine W. Beals  
 Christine Anne Manns  
 Marilyn Murphy  
 Tighe Charitable Remainder Trust

**Grants**

Anonymous (1)  
 Bafflin Foundation  
 The Boston Foundation  
 Cooperative Invasive Species  
 Management Area (CISMA)  
 Cricket Foundation  
 Fields Pond Foundation  
 Gordon and Marjorie Osborne Foundation  
 Merrimack Conservation Partnership  
 National Park Service  
 Natural Resources Conservation Service  
 The Philp Mills Trust  
 William P. Wharton Trust

**Matching Gifts**

Adage Capital Management  
 Benevity Community Impact Fund  
 BNY Mellon Corporation's Community  
 Partnership  
 Bright Funds Foundations  
 Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
 Employees Charitable Campaign  
 Dell Employee Engagement Fund  
 Dell Giving  
 DonateWell  
 ExxonMobil Foundation, Inc.  
 FM Global Foundation  
 Ford Foundation  
 General Electric Foundation  
 Giving Assistant Inc  
 International Business Machines  
 Mentor Graphics Foundation  
 National Grid  
 Network For Good  
 NYSE Euronext Foundation  
 Paypal Charitable Giving Fund  
 Pfizer Inc.  
 Saint-Gobain Corporation  
 State Street Matching Gift Program

Travelers Community Connections  
 Tufts Health Plan Foundation  
 United Way of Tri-County  
 Waters Corporation

**Life Members**

Anonymous (7)  
 Bruce and Marian Anderson  
 Colin and Melody Anderson  
 Robert and Rita Anderson  
 Donna and Art Appel  
 Frederick and Janet Ballou  
 Molly and John Beard  
 Mr. Forrest Berkley and Ms. Marcie Tyre  
 Mr. and Mrs. William H. Catlin, Jr.  
 Chris and Keena Clifford  
 Mr. Gary Countryman  
 Miss Marie T. Creedan  
 Ms. Carol Devine McInnes  
 Mr. Brett Devine  
 Ms. Beverly Emmons  
 Mr. Scott Emmons  
 Mr. Bruce Fletcher  
 George and Carol Gay  
 Mr. Allen Glick  
 Marian and William Harman  
 Cile and Bill Hicks  
 Andi and Chris Jenny  
 Robert Kamen and Trudi Veldman  
 Ms. Ruth Kennedy Sudduth  
 Tony and Judy King  
 Ms. Jacqueline J. Lambert  
 William and Michele Landes  
 Mr. Edward Marram and  
 Ms. Karen Carpenter  
 Richard Mayo and Sara Page Mayo  
 Mr. Charles H. McColough  
 Mr. Edward J. McTighe  
 David and Jaye Moore  
 Andre and Christine Navez  
 Mrs. Elizabeth Parker  
 Mrs. Shirley Pollitt  
 Ann and Bill Rawstron  
 Angelo G. Rocco, M.D. and Celia Rocco  
 Gregory and Claire Rocco  
 Mr. Michael P. Sawink  
 Charles and Martha Schmidt  
 Mrs. Nancy Shepherd  
 Chester and Evelyn Small  
 Ms. Marion B. Smith

David and Lisa Solomon  
 Mr. Charles E. Stearns  
 Mr. Jonathan Stearns  
 The Stevenson Family Charitable Trust  
 Jean Claude and Carole Sureau  
 Jim and Lisa Valone  
 Stephen Winthrop and M. Jane Williamson  
 Fran and Debra Zarette

**The Living Water Society**

**Members and friends who have included SVT in their estate plans**

Anonymous (3)  
 Diana Abrashkin  
 Colin and Melody Anderson  
 Ms. Nancy Burke and Mr. Donald Burn  
 Ms. Laurel J. Carpenter  
 Carol H. Case  
 Ms. Sherri Cline and Mr. Thomas McGowan  
 Ms. Susan Copeland  
 Laura Diamond and Carolyn McDonald  
 Richard and Lorraine Dinjian  
 Dr. Carol Englander  
 Ms. Betty Foley  
 George and Carol Gay  
 Laurence Grossman and  
 Rita Gibes Grossman  
 Cile and Bill Hicks  
 Prof. Donald Hindley  
 Andi and Chris Jenny  
 Mrs. Vera E. Jodrey  
 Rick and Louise Johnson  
 Ms. Ruth Kennedy Sudduth  
 Sally Linden  
 Ms. Judith Markland and  
 Mr. William Saunders  
 Ron McAow and Betsy Stokey  
 Mr. Charles H. McColough  
 Deirdre Menoyo  
 Ms. Jill Moonheron  
 Charles and Lois Morgan  
 Andre and Christine Navez  
 Philip and Donna Schaefer  
 The Stevenson Family Charitable Trust  
 Elizabeth Tepper  
 Mr. Karl Thober  
 Jim and Lisa Valone  
 Ms. Lisa Vernegaard  
 Joy and Alfred Viola  
 Stephen Winthrop and M. Jane Williamson

# Our Volunteers

SVT receives much-needed support from more than 200 volunteers each year. Many of the volunteers who serve on our Board of Directors and Committees (listed elsewhere in this report) also help out in countless other ways. In addition to our Board and Committee members, the following volunteers also worked at least 20 hours in support of SVT projects in FY18. We are grateful to them and to all our volunteers for their commitment to conservation.

John Beard	Danny Griffith	Judy Mack	Kevin Paquin
Jennifer Benson	Carole Hohl	William Martin	Joan Pinkul
Ellen Byrne	Jeanne Johnstone	Chris Menge	Frances Pollitt
Michael Cohen	Nick Johnstone	Robin Merrill	Kimball Simpson
Brad Conant	Marilyn Kelber	Sydney Merrill	Peter Skrzypczak
Missy Davis	George C. Krusen	John K. Metzger	Gretchen Sterling
Eve Donahue	Laura Lane	Jill Moonheron	Chris Swain
Barbara Earley	Michele Lemettias	Lawrence Morris	Joe Tyrrell
Judith A. Eneguess	Norman Levey	Richard Morse	Anna Vernegaard
Marjorie Fisher	David Longland	James Osborn	Elizabeth Wright

*We apologize for any errors or omissions and hope you will notify us of them.*