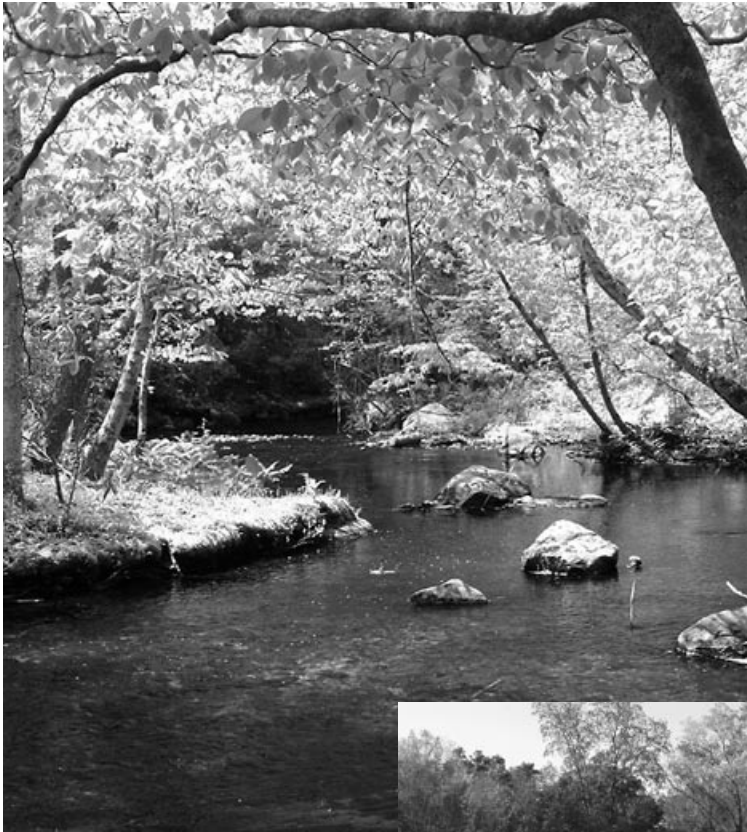


*Connecticut Association
of Conservation & Inland
Wetlands Commissions*



33rd Annual
Meeting &
Environmental
Conference



November 13, 2010
MountainRidge, Wallingford, CT



Photos courtesy Patricia Young and Rod Parlee



*Connecticut Association of Conservation
& Inland Wetlands Commissions (CACIWC)*

33rd Annual Meeting & Environmental Conference

*“Celebrating Four Decades of Environmental
Conservation and Habitat Protection”*

Saturday, November 13, 2010

MountainRidge, High Hill Road, Wallingford, CT

Schedule for the Day

Registration & Breakfast	8:30-9:00 a.m.
Welcome & Business Meeting.....	9:00-9:30 a.m.
Session 1 Workshops	9:30-10:30 a.m.
Break 1	10:30-10:45 a.m.
Session 2 Workshops	10:45-12:00 p.m.
Lunch & Keynote Speaker	12:00-1:30 p.m.
Awards	1:30-1:45 p.m.
Break 2.....	1:45-2:00 p.m.
Session 3 Workshops	2:00-3:15 p.m.
Final Display Viewing	3:15-4:00 p.m.

Displays will be on view from 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Business Meeting Agenda

Approval of Minutes – November 14, 2009 Annual Meeting

Reports:

Treasurer's Annual Report FY 2009-2010

Budget FY 2010-2011

President's Report FY 2009-2010

Old Business

New Business

Keynote Presentations:



“The State of the Environment in New England — 40 Years After Earth Day”

*H. Curtis “Curt” Spalding, Regional Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region 1 New England*

“An Introduction and Connecticut Perspective”

*Amey Marrella, Commissioner
State of Connecticut
Department of Environmental Protection*

Workshop Schedule & Locations

	Session 1 (9:30-10:30)	Session 2 (10:45-12:00)	Session 3 (2:00-3:15)
Open Space/Resource Conservation	A1. Room 2	A2. Room 2	A3. Room 2
Wetlands Law Updates	B1. Room 3	B2. Room 3	B3. Room 3
Conservation Biology	C1. Room 1	C2. Room 1	C3. Room 1
Commission Administration	D1. Dining Room	D2. Dining Room	D3. Dining Room

■ Session 1

A1. “Promoting Connecticut Greenways and Trails” (Room 2)

Teresa Gallagher, Shelton Conservation Agent, representing the CT Greenways Council (Laurie Giannotti, CT DEP Liaison)

A growing number of greenway open space corridors are being recognized throughout Connecticut. These greenways may serve to connect two existing protected areas, or preserve a scenic ridge, waterway, or other scenic landscape. Greenways also provide access to natural areas for hiking and other outdoor recreation. Greenways may preserve trails and historic rail or barge canal routes. Connecticut recently received its first National Scenic Trail designation in the New England Trail, which travels 220 miles through 39 Connecticut communities into Massachusetts. This workshop will highlight the creation of the Shelton Lakes Greenway, which was first incorporated as a goal in the City’s Open Space Plan of 1993. The Greenway now hosts three reservoirs and eleven miles of hiking trails. The construction of a four-mile handicapped-accessible greenway path is underway using the DEP’s Recreational Trails Grant.

B1. “Wetlands Law in 2010: Case Law, Legislative and Regulatory Update” (Room 3)

Janet Brooks, Attorney at Law, LLC; David Wrinn, CT Attorney General’s Office; Mark Branse, Branse, Willis & Knapp, LLC

This trio of wetlands attorneys has been brought back by popular demand to keep you current with the latest state Supreme Court and Appellate Court cases. You’ll hear about an enforcement case involving the farming exemption, and the Old Saybrook wetlands agency’s successful denial of the wetlands application filed by The Preserve in which the Appellate Court upholds jurisdiction over areas outside the wetlands/watercourses and upland review areas and affirms the denial based on wildlife concerns.

C1. “Invasive Plant Update” (Room 1)

Donna Ellis, UConn Extension Educator and Co-Chair, Connecticut Invasive Plant Working Group (CIPWG)

The mission of the Connecticut Invasive Plant Working Group is to gather and convey information on the presence, distribution, ecological impacts, and management of invasive species; to promote uses of native or non-invasive ornamental alternatives throughout Connecticut; and to work cooperatively with researchers, conservation organizations, government agencies, green industries, and the general public to identify and manage invasive species pro-actively and effectively. This workshop will highlight the challenges faced by municipal land use commissions and staff in the identification and control of invasive plants as well as outlining methods of promoting growth of native species as part of local open space management planning.

D1. “Working with the Connecticut Siting Council” (Dining Room)

Linda Roberts, Executive Director & Melanie Backman, Staff Attorney, Connecticut Siting Council

This workshop will review the composition, jurisdiction, and review process of the Connecticut Siting Council. Ms. Roberts and Attorney Backman will outline opportunities for inland wetlands and other municipal land use agencies to review and comment upon proposed projects being evaluated by the Siting Council. They will also discuss the different ways in which conservation commissions and other municipal boards may formally participate in the Council’s adjudicatory process, including the important “pre-file” process.

■ Session 2

A2. “Public Act 490 (PA 490): Connecticut’s Current Use Tax for Farmland, Forest Land, and Open Space Land” (Room 2)

Joan Nichols, Government Relations Specialist, Connecticut Farm Bureau Association

In 1963 the Connecticut General Assembly enacted Public Act 63-490, AN ACT CONCERNING THE TAXATION AND PRESERVATION OF FARM, FOREST OR OPEN SPACE, commonly referred to as “PA 490.” This act has become one of the most important laws to help preserve an agricultural, forest, and natural resource land base in Connecticut. For more than 25 years Connecticut Farm Bureau Association has published and distributed a “PA 490 Guide.” This guide is intended to be a practical guide and to provide an overview of PA 490 for landowners, assessors, government officials, and others wanting to understand how this law is applied. This workshop will highlight key aspects of PA 490 and contents of the 2010 PA 490 Guide.

B2. “Wetlands Law, Q&A” (Room 3)

Janet Brooks, Attorney at Law, LLC; David Wrinn, CT Attorney General’s Office; Mark Branse, Branse, Willis & Knapp, LLC

This is the question-and-answer session that you have asked that we bring back again this year! No presentation by the attorneys. Just your questions. Just their answers.

C2. “Stopping the Emerald Ash Borer and Asian Longhorned Beetles and Other Threats to Connecticut Forests” (Room 1)

Christopher Martin, Director, CT DEP Forestry Division

Connecticut forests have been under many historic threats ranging from catastrophic storm damage, development pressure, and non-native insect pests such as the gypsy moth and the woolly adelgid. Two new pests have been recently discovered in the region that may also threaten Connecticut forest species. The Asian longhorned beetle (ALB), native to the forests of China and Korea, was first discovered in Brooklyn, New York in 1996, Manhattan in 2007, Worcester, Massachusetts in 2008, and Boston in July of this year. The Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) has recently been found within 25 miles of the Connecticut border. While the EAB feeds exclusively on Ash trees, over half of Connecticut tree species are considered susceptible to the ALB. This workshop will review the detection and control strategies developed by the DEP and other agencies and discuss steps that local commissions and staff can take to support these state and regional efforts.

D2. “Riparian Corridors: New Research, Restoration, and Protection Initiatives” (Dining Room)

Dr. Juliana Barrett, Connecticut Sea Grant Program, University of Connecticut & Chet Arnold, University of Connecticut, Department of Extension Center for Land Use Education and Research (CLEAR)

Most CACIWC members are concerned about the state of the riparian, or streamside, corridors in their towns. These areas provide a host of environmental benefits, from erosion control and wildlife habitat to water quality protection. The first part of this session will focus on the recently completed land cover study of the UConn Center for Land Use Education and Research

(CLEAR), showing changes to the 100-foot and 300-foot riparian corridor areas during the 21-year period from 1985 to 2006. We will review both statewide and town-level data, and demonstrate use of the project website. The second part of the session will describe a recent initiative by UConn Sea Grant and CLEAR focusing on riparian area protection and restoration in the Niantic River Watershed. We will discuss the project's experiences working with town commissions (to date), and describe new resources available to commission members interested in better protection of these areas.

■ Session 3

A3. "The Use of GPS Technology in Rare Species Surveys" (Room 2)

Edward Pawlak, Connecticut Ecosystems, LLC

Since its inception in 1992, the DEP Natural Diversity Data Base list of rare species has grown from 498 to 597 (a 20 percent increase). As a result of this trend, it is increasingly likely that development projects will be proposed on properties that either contain or are near a listed species record. There is an ever-greater need for rare species surveys to determine whether listed species occur on properties where development is proposed. Attendees will learn how to find DEP Natural Diversity Data Base maps on the Internet. This workshop will discuss how GPS technology can be used to enhance rare species surveys. Sample survey route maps created with GPS technology will be presented. The workshop will conclude with a list of questions that every land use agency should ask to evaluate the credibility, results, and conclusions of a rare species survey.

B3. "Working With Your Local P&Z" (Room 3)

Attorney Mark K. Branse, Branse, Willis & Knapp, LLC

This workshop will discuss how conservation commissions can work effectively with their town's planning and zoning commission throughout the application review process. The use of local Plans of Conservation and Development to promote the long-term protection of important habitats within their town will also be discussed.

C3. "Fishers and Moose in Connecticut: Changing Mammal Population Dynamics" (Room 1)

Andrew LaBonte, Wildlife Biologist, CT DEP Wildlife Division

Although sporadic moose sightings were reported in Connecticut in the early 1900s, multiple sightings did not begin until the 1990s, with an average of six per year. These reports increased to 60 per year in 2007 and the DEP now estimates the Connecticut population at around 100. Although moose are unique and majestic creatures, their large size and nocturnal activity patterns result in safety concerns to the driving public. The fisher, one of the largest members of the weasel family, was reintroduced into western Connecticut starting in 1988. Sightings have increased in eastern Connecticut as a result of an expansion of their range from Massachusetts. Additional studies are needed to determine their long-term impact on Connecticut's forest environments. This workshop will provide information to assist municipal commissions and staff in responding to public inquiries and offer suggestions on supporting state and regional efforts to track and study these fascinating animals and other mammalian species.

D3. "Pesticides, Wetlands, and Watercourses" (Dining Room)

Bradford Robinson, Supervisor, & Judith Singer, DEP Pesticide Unit

Many Connecticut towns are identifying an increasing number of ponds, lakes, and other water bodies that are experiencing an overgrowth of aquatic plants from the introduction of invasive species combined with eutrophication from fertilizer runoff. These overgrowth problems can greatly affect biodiversity, cause aesthetic impacts, and impinge of the recreational value of the water body. This workshop will describe the biology of invasive aquatic plants and the various methods of control, ranging from dredging and mechanical to biological and chemical pesticides. Federal regulations that affect pesticide use will be reviewed along with information on Connecticut DEP permit requirements. The session will also provide an opportunity for local commissioners and agents to better understand their role in management of these issues.

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Exhibitors

We appreciate our Exhibitors' support of our Annual Meeting. Please visit their booths and give them your support throughout the year.

Agresource, Inc.
Audubon Connecticut
CACIWC
Connecticut Chapter, American Society of Landscape Architects
Connecticut Environmental Review Team
Connecticut Forest & Park Association
Connecticut Invasive Plant Working Group
Connecticut League of Conservation Voters
Connecticut Sierra Club
DEP Store
Earth Tones Native Plant Nursery
Fitzgerald & Halliday, Inc.
GHD, Inc.
GZA GeoEnvironmental, Inc.
Mad Gardeners, Inc.
New England Wetland Plants, Inc.
Phase II Stormwater Products, Inc.
Rinker Materials
Skyjuice New England



CACIWC Annual Meeting Minutes

November 14, 2009

Mountain Ridge, Wallingford, CT

Alan Siniscalchi President and Annual Meeting Chairman convened the meeting at 9:28 a.m. and welcomed the annual meeting attendees. He acknowledged the support of the annual meeting sponsors and reviewed the conference agenda and the information in the conference packet. He requested the meeting attendees complete the meeting evaluation and comment form to provide important feedback information.

Alan Siniscalchi opened the Business Meeting at 9:35 a.m. Charles Dimmick made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 2008 Annual Meeting, second by Maureen FitzGerald. The motion carried.

Alan Siniscalchi noted the annual meeting packet information contains the Treasurer's Annual Report, the CACIWC Budget and the President's Report for Fiscal Year 2008-2009. He briefly reviewed the President's Report and the strategic plan initiatives the Board is pursuing and requested feedback from the membership through the meeting evaluation forms and comments.

Alan Siniscalchi noted that the annual meeting is dedicated to the memory of Allan Williams.

Old Business – none discussed.

New Business – Election of Officers and Directors.

Alan Siniscalchi referred to the report of the Nominating Committee for Officers and County representatives and requested a motion to approve the slate. Motion made by Marianne Corona, second by C. Dimmick to approve the new slate of Officers and Representatives. Motion carried.

<u>President -</u>	Alan Siniscalchi	<u>Treasurer -</u>	[to be appointed]
<u>Vice President -</u>	Charles Dimmick	<u>Secretary -</u>	Maureen FitzGerald
<u>Fairfield County:</u>	Alicia Mozian	County Representative	
<u>Hartford County:</u>	Ann Beaudin	County Representative	
	Cyd Groff	Alternate Representative	
<u>Litchfield County:</u>	Kim Barbieri	County Representative	
<u>Middlesex County:</u>	Marianne Corona	County Representative	
<u>New Haven County:</u>	Laura Magaraci	County Representative	
<u>New London County:</u>	Pat Young	County Representative	
	Mary Ann Chinatti	Alternate Representative	
<u>Tolland County:</u>	Rod Parlee	County Representative	
<u>Windham County:</u>	Kim Kelly	County Representative	
	Judy Rondeau	Alternate Representative	

Alan Siniscalchi expressed the appreciation of the CACIWC Board to Marguerite Purnell, prior Treasurer and acting Secretary, for her valuable efforts and contributions to the Board and CACIWC.

There being no further business, a motion was made to adjourn the Business meeting at 9:40 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Maureen FitzGerald
Secretary, CACIWC

*Treasurer's Annual Report 2009-2010
and Budget FY 2010-2011*

	Actuals '09-'10	Budget '09-'10	Budget '10-'11
INCOME			
Membership Dues	12,220.00	11,000.00	11,000.00
Interest Income	28.34	40.00	40.00
<i>Habitat</i> Advertising/Sponsorship	7,055.00	6,000.00	6,500.00
CACIWC Publications/Sales	100.00	75.00	75.00
Contributions	420.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Grant Income-Staff ED	0.00	5,000.00	0.00
Annual Meeting Receipts	12,136.50	14,000.00	14,000.00
Total Income	31,959.84	37,115.00	32,615.00
EXPENSES			
<i>Education & Information</i>			
<i>Habitat</i> - type, edit, graphics & layout	2,052.70	2,000.00	2,000.00
<i>Habitat</i> - printing	1,603.20	4,000.00	4,000.00
<i>Habitat</i> - mailing (labels, mail service & postage)	3,828.43	4,500.00	4,500.00
<i>Habitat</i> - advertising	0.00	2,000.00	2,500.00
Website	427.40	1,150.00	1,150.00
Listserve Management	180.25	500.00	500.00
Workshops	0.00	2,000.00	1,500.00
Organization Support	496.10	400.00	400.00
Board Development	50.00	200.00	200.00
IWC Education & Information	0.00	250.00	250.00
CC Eductaion & Information	0.00	250.00	400.00
<i>Administration & Operations</i>			
Administrative Support (bookkeeping & other)	0.00	1,000.00	0.00
Administrative Support (membership & DB mgt.)	735.65	500.00	500.00
Strategic Planning	0.00	0.00	0.00
Staff/ED	0.00	2,500.00	0.00
Office and Meeting Room Rental	600.00	600.00	600.00
Office Equipment/Furniture	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Telephone/Fax	446.99	500.00	500.00
Postage Supplies	132.19	200.00	200.00
Insurance	500.00	500.00	500.00
Auditor	0.00	250.00	250.00
Fees	50.00	25.00	25.00
Refunds	1.05	0.00	0.00
<i>Legislative Action</i>	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
<i>Annual Meeting Expenses</i>	16,155.90	15,500.00	15,500.00
Total Expenses	28,259.86	40,825.00	37,475.00
Closing Balance	13,816.71		

Respectfully submitted,
Patricia Young, Treasurer

President's Report for the 2010 Annual Meeting: A Year in Perspective

It has been another busy year for CACIWC as we continue efforts to implement the goals of our strategic plan. Additional tasks necessary to build the foundation for our financial development plan have been completed by our board of directors, headed by fellow executive board members Vice President Charles Dimmick, Secretary Maureen FitzGerald, and Pat Young who generously agreed to fill the position of Treasurer in April. Other board members completing the first year of their two-year terms include new members Mary Ann Chinatti, Laura Magaraci, and Alicia Mozian, who joined existing members Ann Beaudin, Marianne Corona, Kimberly Kelly, and Rod Parlee. The resignations of Treasurer Marguerite Purnell, Kim Barbieri, Linda Berger, Cyd Groff, Judy Rondeau, and Diana Ross were regretfully accepted; the board thanks them for their work on behalf of CACIWC.

While work toward implementation of our long-term strategic plan continues, the short-term focus of much of the board's energy is our **annual meeting and environmental conference**. Organizing a large-scale annual conference is a major task for any organization and is a particularly challenging task for a small volunteer board without full-time staff. We are inspired to continue this event each year by the feedback we receive from all of you. We value every comment and suggestion that you provide to us each year as we strive to bring timely and relevant topics and issues to your attention. Many components of our 32nd Annual Meeting & Environmental Conference were developed in response to your suggestions. This event, held on Saturday, November 14, 2009, was the eighth day-long conference. A total of 12 workshops were provided within four topic tracks for inland wetlands and conservation commissioners and staff. Patrick M. Comins, Director of Bird Conservation for Audubon Connecticut, was the keynote speaker. His presentation, "The Role of Municipalities in Preserving Threatened Bird Habitats in Connecticut," emphasized the important role municipalities play in protecting key wildlife habitats. He reviewed approaches municipalities can use to safeguard key habitats while preserving Connecticut's scenic heritage. A total of 25 display tables provided additional opportunities for learning and networking. This year's conference continues our efforts to extend the range of educational options, including new workshops, developed in response to requests for new advanced topics for conservation and wetlands commissioners and staff.



CACIWC has also continued its efforts for **support of commissions and recognition of commissioners and staff**. Five major annual recognition awards were given to deserving recipients during the 2009 annual conference. **Alden W. Ringklib, Chairman of the New Hartford Inland Wetlands Commission**, received the 2009 award for **Wetlands Commissioner of the Year**. Mr. Ringklib was recognized for his two decades of outstanding leadership to his town. Mr. Ringklib has been a member of the New Hartford Inland Wetlands Commission for over 20 years and seated as Chairman for much of that time. **Gwen Marrion, Chairman of the Bolton Inland Wetlands Commission**, was honored with the 2009 **Commissioner of the Year** award. Ms. Marrion has recently retired from the Bolton Inland Wetlands Commission after her continuous service for 20 years since it separated from the Bolton Conservation Commission. In her service as Chair for all but two years of the commission's two decades of independent existence, Ms. Marrion has directed numerous improvements to the commission's procedures and regulations. Gwen's leadership inspired her fellow commissioners with her knowledge of wetlands regulations, while her understanding of Bolton's environment, history, and people is widely recognized throughout her town. **Kathleen Holland, Director of the New Canaan Inland Wetlands and Watercourses**

Department, received the 2009 award for **Wetlands Director of the Year**. Ms. Holland was recognized for her development and implementation of a comprehensive multiple-objective plan to improve the organizational efficiency and visibility of her department and its role within town government and the community. The Commission can always count on Ms. Holland and her department to provide comprehensive background and analysis on all applications to enable them to make sound and binding decisions. The **Tolland Inland Wetlands Commission** received the 2009 **Commission of the Year** award and **Stephen Lowrey, Zoning/Wetlands Agent for the Town of Tolland**, received the 2009 **Wetlands Agent of the Year** award. Mr. Lowrey was recognized for his work in the development and implementation of comprehensive low-impact development (LID) regulations. Working with the town's consultant, a set of LID regulations were developed and incorporated into the town's Zoning and Wetlands regulations. These new regulations fulfill all LID objectives while meeting the town's stormwater treatment challenges. Mr. Lowrey also played a vital role in local implementation of the Tankerhoosen Watershed Management Plan (TWMP) developed by The Friends of Hockanum River Linear Park, Inc.

CACIWC also acknowledged statewide educational efforts to promote environmental conservation and habitat protection at its 32nd Annual Meeting & Environmental Conference. A **Special Recognition Award** was given to **Steve Grant** for his nearly 30-year career with *The Hartford Courant*, where he served as environmental writer and politics editor along with numerous memorable articles on natural habitats, outdoor recreation, travel, and the green movement. He continues to write and promote environmental education as a member of the Society of Environmental Journalists, the New England Travel Writers Network, and the Thoreau Society. He is also a founder and former president of the Capitol Bird Club in Connecticut. A **Special Recognition Award** was also given to **Peter Marteka** for his efforts to promote hiking and conservation in Connecticut through his columns in *The Hartford Courant*. With each column, Peter prompts his readers to discover the many wonderful hiking opportunities that can be found throughout Connecticut, while inspiring a deep appreciation of our state's varied natural habitats.

In closing the 2009 awards ceremony, President Alan Siniscalchi presented a posthumous **Lifetime Achievement Award** to honor the memory of **Allan Noam Williams**, who died June 26, 2009 of pancreatic cancer. Allan Williams worked closely with CACIWC for many years while at the DEP Natural Resources Center on various publications ranging from *The Habitat* to *The Handbook for Conservation Commissioners*. His lifelong passion for environmental education led him to open the DEP Bookstore to help his agency's efforts to promote Connecticut's natural environments. He even took his store on the road by starting a tradition to bring his favorite selection of books and other publications to the CACIWC annual meeting and environmental conference each year. Allan's environmental career did not end with his retirement from the DEP. His consulting practice was retained in 2007 to facilitate the development of the CACIWC strategic plan, which the board completed in May 2008. This CACIWC award honoring Allan's decades of service in the promotion of environmental conservation in Connecticut was accepted by his brother Robert Williams, sister-in-law Laura Williams, and niece Lynn.

The board continues its **information and outreach support** to commission members and staff through our website, CACIWC.org, and our quarterly publication, *The Habitat*, which is published under the direction of Editor and former President Tom ODell and Associate Editor and former Executive Director Ann Letendre. Other municipal commission and environmental **advocacy efforts** were pursued in conjunction with various partner organizations.

The entire board of directors is dedicated to **expanding the educational opportunities for municipal land use**

commissioners and staff. One of my first priorities as president was the reactivation of our conservation and inland wetlands education committees during 2008. These committees have continued to meet throughout 2010 to review topics for educational materials and training programs.

During 2010, we continued a three-year program to focus our activities to the five priority goals established in our **Strategic Plan**. This plan was developed in 2008 under the patient guidance and facilitation of the late Allan Williams, to whom we dedicated the 2009 conference. The board is pleased to share progress on these high priority goals, reproduced below, as part of our 33rd Annual Meeting & Environmental Conference report:

1. **Plan and initiate regional workshops on technical topics relevant to local commissions.** The board and the membership had identified education as the most important program on which to focus for the next few years. CACIWC is committed to preparing a series of new workshops that will educate and energize local commissions to carry out their duties with greater skill and effectiveness. Both the Conservation and Wetlands Education Committees have been reviewing topics for educational materials and training programs and have tentative plans for a mid year on-site workshop during 2010.
2. **Evaluate responsibilities and functions of officers, directors, committees and staff, make recommendations for appropriate changes, and implement recommendations.** CACIWC is committed to grow and to become a more effective organization to serve you, our municipal partners and members. During 2009, the board has begun an examination of the duties of volunteers, staff, and committees to increase productivity and promote volunteerism. Completing this goal by 2011 will set the stage for a well run organization in the decade to follow.
3. **Identify and define educational topics to be addressed throughout the year and provide scientific, technical, legal, and administrative information papers on new or unfolding topics for local commissions.** In this era of information explosion, it is incumbent on CACIWC to research scientific, legal, and financial topics to provide up-to-date information and in usable formats for its member commissions. Both the Conservation and Wetlands Education Committees are working to identify important educational topic for our members. The Conservation Education Committee completed a pamphlet, entitled *It's Your call! Your Environmental Toolkit for*

continued next page

President's Report for the 2010 Annual Meeting (continued)

Properly Assessing Development Proposals, to help local commissions respond to threats against important local habitats. The contents of this pamphlet are available on the CACIWC display table for viewing and on our website for downloading.

4. **Expand and enhance CACIWC.org.** The organization recognizes the increased importance of the website for communicating with its members and partners, for posting and providing links to research, for providing time-sensitive news, and for conducting organization business. The board has reorganized a committee to oversee an evaluation of the design and use of our website.
5. **Prepare and adopt a financial development plan that will ensure the viability of CACIWC for the next 5-10 years, a plan that will utilize a diversity of funding sources to support the successful accomplishment of the organization's goals.** All the goals in the Strategic Plan are dependent on the successful completion of this goal. Under the direction of Vice President Charles Dimmick, the board has continued efforts to document our various fiscal and

organizational policies necessary for the pursuit of foundation grants and related funding opportunities.

The board was pleased to continue efforts during 2010 toward achieving the five priority goals of our 2008 CACIWC Strategic Plan. We know that achieving these goals will enable CACIWC to expand its role as a strong and effective statewide organization in support of you, our municipal conservation and wetlands commissioners and staff.

As state and federal fiscal challenges grow, we continue to appreciate your concerns regarding the ongoing loss of funding for many important state and local environmental conservation programs. Those of us who you entrust to lead CACIWC will continue efforts to bring you relevant educational programs while informing you of the latest issues affecting your role as one of Connecticut's most important assets.

Thank you again, and enjoy the 2010 annual meeting and environmental conference!

— Alan J. Siniscalchi, President

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CACIWC 2010 Annual Recognition Award Recipients

JENNIFER ALLCOCK, a member and chairperson of the **Guilford Conservation Commission**, is receiving the 2010 “**Conservation Commissioner of the Year**” award. Dr. Allcock, who served on the Conservation Commission from 2004 to 2010 and as its chairperson for five years, is being recognized for her extraordinary contributions to the Town of Guilford. Jennifer has led or been involved in virtually every significant conservation activity undertaken by the Town. She has continuously supported the efforts of the Planning and Zoning Commission in developing conservation-related plans and implementing them, including the Town’s Plan of Conservation and Development 2002, Growth Management Strategies 2004, and the 2007 Municipal Coastal Plan. She has served on the Planning Committee of the P&Z Commission and monitors the agendas of the Commission to insure the continuing commitment to conservation principles in the day-to-day activities relating to the development of the Town.

Dr. Allcock, along with other advocates in the Town, created the Natural Resource Inventory and Assessment in 2005. This detailed comprehensive description of the Town’s resources has proved to be an invaluable tool in making land use and conservation decisions and has served as a model to land use professionals throughout the state. Not content to work only at the policy level, Jennifer has also led the Conservation Commission in the ongoing management of the Town’s 500-acre Timberlands property and created and managed a research orchard on Town land in support of a nationwide effort to develop a blight-resistant American chestnut tree.

In 1965 Dr. Allcock co-founded the pioneering Covenant House Health Services in Philadelphia and served as its Director for 25 years. She received the Philadelphia Award, given each year to a citizen who acted and served on behalf of the best interests of the community, and went on to earn an M.A. in Landscape Design. Jennifer is a model conservation citizen and leader and although she will be returning to Pennsylvania this year, her contributions will be long remembered in Guilford.

GEORGE A. ZIEGRA, a member and chairman of the **Salem Inland Wetlands and Conservation Commission**, is being honored with the 2010 “**Lifetime Achievement Award**.” Mr. Zieggra is being recognized for his more than three decades of service to the Town of Salem. Mr. Zieggra first became a commission member within the first decade of the original Earth Day on January of 1980, when the Commission was known as the Conservation Commission. He and his fellow commissioners took on the additional task of regulating inland wetlands on April 1992, when the commission expanded to become the Salem Inland Wetlands and Conservation Commission.

Mr. Zieggra, a retired engineer from Electric Boat, has dedicated almost 31 years of service to the Town of Salem and its residents as a member of the Inland Wetlands and Conservation Commission, serving as its Chair for many of those 31 years. Through those years, he has proven to be a valuable asset and member, who has grown and continues to grow in his knowledge and experience, ensuring the protection of Salem’s valuable natural resources.

Mr. Zieggra’s passion for promoting conservation and natural resource protection also led him to become involved in many regional efforts. His participation in a working group that reviewed the Niantic River Watershed Plan is a recent example. George invested many hours with the workgroup conducting a detailed review of the plan, which resulted in numerous recommendations for improved implementation of protective actions.

His fellow commission members know that they can count on Mr. Zieggra. He rarely misses a meeting, and places high value on the importance of wetlands and conservation. Moreover, he is always willing to respond to requests from new members to share his perspective and guidance based on his many years of experience. CACIWC is pleased award this special honor in recognition of his dedicated efforts on behalf of his town.

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