



# HANOVER CONSERVANCY

*Protecting land & water in our community*

**December 2013**

**W.D. Wetherell**  
*on "Heavens"*

"*Infinity* is an easy word to fling at stars, especially for someone starting out to celebrate his love for the night sky. When I go outside of a dark and clear winter evening, high-step through the snowy drifts in our meadow to stare up at the sky, what I'm aware of first is a happy play of light, a bright intimacy, a cozy flashing. Orion rising sideways over Smart's Mountain.

"The stars are the wilderness overhead, the nearest any of us will ever come to glimpsing the heavens, the great elemental sight. Like sunlight on ocean, the pattern of wind moving through a grassy field, the high sweep of distant mountains, it demands the kind of seeing that takes us out of ourselves, diminishing us and exalting us all in that same glimpse - the night's art."

- *North of Now*

## Protecting Alswell Farm

We want you to know about a new conservation project - the historic Alswell Farm. The Hanover Conservancy has just contributed \$5,000 to help protect the 50-acre property. Set on Wolfeboro Road in Hanover Center, the farm includes open fields, valuable soils, and the headwaters of Slade and Monahan Brooks. Our friends at the [Upper Valley Land Trust](#) are preparing a conservation easement that will permanently protect the land for wildlife, water quality, public recreation, and future farming.



The Conservancy's gift comes from our Strategic Land Action Fund, created during our last capital campaign to enable us to help when such high priority lands become available.

## Welcome to the Board!

At our 2013 Annual Meeting last week, Conservancy members elected Karen Geiling to a three-year term and re-elected President Nancy Collier, Eric Evans, and Tom Hall. A financial advisor, Karen is an active community member both locally and globally. Meet her and the rest of our board [HERE](#).



## Thanks to Our 100 Volunteers

We would be stuck in a rut without the 100 (yes, really!) volunteers who help care for our lands, serve on our committees, lead our trips, build our bridges, maintain our trails, serve up goodies at our gatherings, and often lure their friends into the fun. Their rewards range from a bag of buckthorn to a newly protected

**Donate Now**

*We appreciate your support as you consider your end-of-year giving.*

*Special opportunities include our Strategic Land Action Fund and our new Moose Mountain Stewardship Fund.*

mountainside - and always the sense that they are contributing to their community.

Special thanks go to retiring board member Steve Shadford, shown here posting signage for the [Greensboro Highlands Trail](#) that he helped lay out and build.



## **Winter Trips Coming Soon**

Our winter series begins January 11 with an old favorite, the Moonlight Snowshoe Tour of Slade Brook. Current members will receive our refrigerator door-worthy trip card just after the holidays. Not a member? [Join now](#) and don't miss out!

## **Annual Report On the Web**

Browse our latest [annual report](#) for an update on our adventures and programs, plans and financials.

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