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December 2016

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Welcome!

The 2016 grant award recipients have been selected and announced! Hooray for people all around the state doing great work to preserve and conserve their special natural, historic and cultural resources. There is a list of the new recipients at the end of this newsletter. We will begin highlighting these projects in the January 2017 newsletter.

Days are getting shorter as we approach the winter solstice. As daylight wanes, it's easy to see why lights play an important role in many cultures celebrating seasonal holidays. My holiday music collection includes a song with this charming line:

With mirth and good cheer to end the whole year, and drive the cold winter away.

I wish you mirth and good cheer and the best of the pleasures of winter.

Dijit Taylor
LCHIP Executive Director

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LCHIP Spotlights

A picture is worth 1000 words - LCHIP grant preserves iconic landmark in Tamworth.

If you have ever traveled Rt. 16 through Tamworth, you have almost certainly enjoyed the stunning view of Mt. Chocorua's 3,475' granite peak over the Chocorua Lakes. The view is so iconic that in 2013 it was selected as part of the federal government's "America the Beautiful" series of commemorative quarters.

For years, it has been the good will of one family that has kept the view intact. The land that slopes from Rt. 16 down to the shoreline of Little Chocorua Lake is privately owned. Modest restrictions that were put in place decades ago allowed for the construction of a house that could have blocked the historically significant view.

In 2014, the Chocorua Lake Conservancy began an effort to permanently preserve that view. This was enthusiastically supported by LCHIP which awarded an \$88,000 grant to assist in the effort. Learn more about the Chocorua Lake Conservancy and the history of Mt. Chocorua [here](#).



Mount Chocorua Viewshed

South Danbury Church

South Danbury Church, completed in 1867, is the one remaining active community building in South Danbury, formerly a bustling village straddling Route 4. The 1985 National Register nomination for the church notes that it "manages to combine, in a pleasing way, the honest simplicity and good proportions that are the chief virtues of the vernacular chapels with the dignity of form that was one of the merits of its Federal predecessors."

The Church is also home to the famed holiday pageant depicted in Donald Hall's classic, [Lucy's Christmas](#). In 2015, LCHIP provided an \$80,000 grant to the South Danbury Church to support the rehabilitation of the building. Work to be done includes mold and moisture remediation; foundation, clapboard, exterior trim, and roof repairs; window and shutter restoration; and interior and exterior painting.



Watercolor by Calvin Opitz

LCHIP Road Trip

**Sled Dog Races on Chocorua Lake
February 4-5, 2017**

Pencil in the weekend of Feb 4-5, 2017 for the annual Tamworth Sled Dog Races on Chocorua Lake. Come watch 40-50 teams and hundreds of dogs race across Chocorua Lake and through the woods around the lake. Viewers are treated to a day-long New England experience steeped in tradition and heritage. Spectators are welcome to walk, snowshoe or ski onto the ice. Hot chocolate, chili, hamburgers and hotdogs are usually available, and there is often a bonfire where marshmallows are toasted.



*Sled dogs on Chocorua Lake
Photo by Rainer Wischinski*

The races start along Old Route 16 on the Chocorua Lake Conservancy's "Island" area adjacent to Route 16 on the east side of the lake. Races start at 9am on Saturday and Sunday. The signature "open" class race, in which a driver can run as many dogs as they can hook up, is usually held mid-day.

The races are free to all spectators, but the Tamworth Outing Club welcomes donations. Learn more [here](#).

2016 LCHIP Grant Recipients

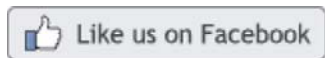
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| Alstead - Chase's Mill | Laconia - Belknap Mill Planning Study |
| Ashland - Town Planning Study | Laconia - Colonial Theatre |
| Barrington - Barr Conservation Easement | Lebanon - Rogers House |
| Bath - Peters Family Farm Easement | Londonderry - Expanding the Musquash |
| Belmont - Library Planning Study | Meredith - Page Pond Community Forest |
| Candia - Tower Hill Pond | Moultonborough - Lee's Pond Preserve |
| Center Harbor - Town House | Nashua - Sullivan Farm |
| Claremont - City Hall Planning Study | New Durham - Widow Maker Farm |
| Conway - Kennett Community Forest | Northumberland - Cape Horn Connectivity |
| Danbury - Deuink Conservation Easement | Portsmouth - John Paul Jones House |
| Derry - First Parish Church | Portsmouth - Penhallow House Planning Study |
| Exeter - Winter Street Cemetery | Portsmouth - South Church Planning Study |
| Fracestown - Collins Brook Headwaters | Rochester - City Hall Annex |
| Gilmanton - Kelley Corner Schoolhouse #1 | Salem - Salem Town Forest Expansion |

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| Haverhill - Blackmount Farm | Statewide - Preservation Planning Block Grant |
| Jaffrey - Meetinghouse | Swanzy - Windyhurst Farm |
| Keene - Cheshire County Courthouse | Wakefield - Town Hall |
| Kensington - Bodwell Fields and Forest | |



The **NH Conservation License Plate (Moose Plate) Program** supports the protection of critical resources in our state. You can purchase a Moose Plate at any time - for your new car, for a car that's already registered, or even for a friend! Find out more at mooseplate.com. Income from the Moose Plate Program pays for much of LCHIP's administrative expenses. LCHIP thanks Moose Plate holders for their support!

Headline Photo: Governor Maggie Hassan congratulates LCHIP's most recent grant recipients at the official announcement. Photo credit: Perry Smith



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