2020 Summary

Despite the pandemic, 2020 was a productive year. We began with over 12 Stewardship programs and strong recruitment for the Cooperator Trainings. But after a well-attended apple tree release workshop in Granville on March 14, all of our programming moved online.

In late March, we began hosting 2 to 4 online programs per week that were recorded and uploaded to our new YouTube channel. We posted 45 videos during 2020. We held online Cooperator social hours and shared Coverts updates through Facebook and Instagram. The e-news was sent out more frequently to keep Cooperators and Friends informed and connected.

We redesigned our website and logo for launch in early 2021. The Coverts Cooperators Survey was completed and the results will be shared in the 2021 newsletters.

A successful annual meeting was held online with the James Bruce Engle award going to Chittenden County Forester Ethan Tapper and the David Clarkson award going to Cooperator Elise Tillinghast.

We partnered on outreach with Land Ethic Vermont and Women Owning Woodlands and developed a podcast with UVM Extension. Link to all these efforts from our website www.vtcoverts.org.

Finances

Due to the pandemic, expenses, at $87,000, were down in 2020, but so was income, at $80,000, particularly grants. We received a Payroll Protection Plan loan for $10,787 that was forgiven in 2021 reducing our operating deficit to about $7,000. Please note that numbers are rounded. At year end, our total assets were $334,136.

2020 Council Members

Skip Abelson, Sudbury
Dawn Andrews, treasurer, Cabot
Tina Barney, secretary, Hartland
Nate Billings, fall class representative, Woodstock
Jon Bouton, Hartford
Alan Calfee, ex officio, Rupert
Rich Chalmers, president, Williamstown
Donna Foster, Sharon
Lenny Gerardi, St. Johnsbury
John Hawkins, South Strafford
Bob Lloyd, ex officio, Rutland
John McNerney, Monkton
Mark O’Meara, Andover
Owen Rogal, vice president, Hancock
Ann Vanneman, Shrewsbury
Kimberly Royar, ex officio, Wallingford
Richard Saunders, spring class representative, Milton
Keith Thompson, ex officio, Underhill

Executive Director: Lisa Sausville
Outreach Technician: Alicia Carlson

PO Box 328, Vergennes, VT 05491    www.vtcoverts.org    (802) 877-2777