

JUNE NEWSLETTER



Volume 5 Issue 6

ACFT Tree Stewards in Action!

PRUNING TREES

On May 11th, the Alliance's Tree Stewards participated in a pruning refresher workshop led by ACFT advisor, Dr. Jim Gregory and Zach LeBlanc from Bartlett Tree Service at Pine Forest Cemetery.



After the workshop, the Stewards pruned many of the 124 trees planted by ACFT volunteers in November 2022 in recognition of the 1898 coup d'état thanks to grant funding from the Arbor Day Foundation. Thanks to Pine Forest Cemetery for hosting us!

TREE ASSESSMENTS

Did you know during our 2023-2024 planting season, ACFT volunteers planted 225 trees along the streets of Wilmington? Thanks to our **Tree Stewards**, each tree has been tagged with a specific id# which helps us identify which trees are where (by GPS location). This assists our small but mighty band of Stewards in assessing trees and determining their conditions so we can properly care for them. The tree tags also allows residents to report problems with trees (like the number on power poles to report light outages to Duke Energy) and encourages them to sign up to care for that tree (i.e. become a **Tree Keeper**).



The **Alliance for Cape Fear Trees** planted and cares for this tree.
Learn more at www.acftrees.org/treecare
If you'd like to help care for/water this tree, or want to report an issue,
please email treecare@acftrees.org and note this tree's id #
Please do not remove this tag

Tree ID: 0249



We need your help to keep our newly planted trees healthy and thriving through watering and mulching. Your efforts will ensure that these trees continue to provide shade, beauty, and cleaner air for all of us. Together, we can make a significant impact on the environment and enhance our community. We have weekday and weekend shifts available.

If you are able to join us in nurturing our young trees, please email info@acftrees.org for more information.

May's Mentions



LEADERS IN SERVICE AWARD

On May 1st, the Wilmington Rotary Club recognized ACFT Board Chair, Connie Parker for her lifelong contributions to the non-profit sector with the Leaders in Service Award.

The award criteria are as follows: nominees must have held a leadership position in their organization or its local branch, made a significant impact on the community's needs in one or more of the Rotary Areas of Focus, led a life and managed their organization according to the Rotary Four-Way Test, and demonstrated strong leadership skills, including a commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion, personnel development, and collaboration with other community leaders.

WOMEN'S IMPACT NETWORK GRANT

Thanks to the Women's Impact Network of New Hanover

County for selecting ACFT as a grant recipient. These funds will be used for community outreach programs to promote tree equity, tree care and our Tree Stewardship program.



And last but certainly not least...



It seems only a week ago that Allison Childs came to my home office to talk about the position of Administrative Coordinator for the Alliance. As she sat on the floor and played with my dog, Barney, we talked about the two mutual friends who had recommended her for the position. We had just become our own non-profit organization and with funds from the Women's Impact Network, we were able to hire Allison as our first employee.

Allison stepped in to strengthen the organization and help me with much needed assistance, as I had been volunteer Board Chair and Acting Executive Director for over four years. For the next three years we worked together in that home office to build the Alliance toward community recognition as a major advocacy and tree planting organization. In 2023 we received a grant from the New Hanover County Community Endowment to hire our first paid Executive Director, Dan Camacho; and we had funds saved to move into our first real office, sharing space with our partner, the NC Coastal Land Trust.

Allison was instrumental and invaluable in moving the Alliance for Cape Fear Trees this far. Her natural ability to work well with and become friends with our Board members and volunteers was amazing! She took a major load from me with her computer skills and understanding of things needed before I asked for assistance. I call her the "Rock of ACFT", and I have a difficult time imagining the Alliance without her. And Barney still misses her treats and attention after the office move!

Yet, now is a time in Allison's life that she is able to take on a full-time position with another more established non-profit organization. The Alliance was not able to offer what she needed now. She has promised to help us through the next period until we find a replacement, but Allison cannot be replaced in our hearts and minds.

You have my undying appreciation, Allison! I hope you learned and grew professionally from being our friend and colleague, as you have expressed to me

you have. I look forward to our friendship continuing, as I need to know about the future incredible successes ahead for Harrison, your super-star son....

With what I know is the feeling of all our Board members, volunteers, and supporters, I can state with certainty that you will be greatly missed by all of us with the Alliance for Cape Fear Trees! My sincere wishes for your future endeavors....

With love and appreciation,

Connie Parker
ACFT Board President (for one more month!)



Help Us Help Our Trees

Your donation allows us to plant, preserve, protect and plant trees to enhance the quality of life and health for present and future generation in the Lower Cape Fear area.

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Alliance for Cape Fear Trees | 7 Beaugard Drive Suite 2 | Wilmington, NC 28412 US

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