

Watershed Observer



NEWSLETTER OF THE AMERICAN CHESTNUT LAND TRUST - VOLUME 20 NO. 4, FALL 2006

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CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

- SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9,
11 AM - 2 PM - *GREENS SALE AND
BEACH HAYRIDE*
SEE [HTTP://ACLTWEB.ORG](http://acltweb.org) OR PAGE 9
FOR FULL CALENDAR AND
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.

Member Notice

The 2006 Annual Membership meeting of the American Chestnut Land Trust will be held on Saturday, February 10, 2007, from 9:30 a.m. - 12 noon at the St. John Vianney Catholic Church in Prince Frederick, Maryland.

CREATING A WHOLE COMMUNITY

I recently went to Nashville, Tennessee for the Land Trust Alliance (LTA) Rally. For those of you not familiar with LTA, it is the national association for land trusts. They provide our industry's Standards and Practices for doing good and ethical work, they provide training and technology resources and they help small land trusts throughout the country (who might not have the resources on their own) by providing group insurance and other shared resources. The Rally is LTA's annual conference. My first Rally was in 1997 and had about 650 people from land trusts throughout the US. This year's Rally (my fourth) had about 2,000 participants (including land trust board members, staff, volunteers, government employees, students and others) all wanting to learn more about the best and newest ideas in land conservation and stewardship.

For me, Rally is always a personal journey, a journey of education and internal growth. It helps me to step back and re-embrace the reasons why I choose to do the kind work I do. There are always inspiring speakers at Rally and this year was no exception. Bill McKibben (author of *The End of Nature*) spoke poignantly that we are teetering on planetary-wide destruction of nature and human life through global warming. But he is still hopeful that through "new ways of behaving, of getting and spending, [humans] can still change the future". We have the ability to adapt our behavior but we must do it now. Author, Janisse Ray (*Ecology of a Cracker Childhood*), also spoke about changing the way we live, by buying local and supporting local businesses, about the destruction caused by clear-cutting forests, and about finding nature and acceptance in the most unlikely spots.

But the most important session for me was one where Peter Forbes spoke about the work we do as members of a land trust. Currently most of us count "acres preserved and funds raised" as our measures of success. He spoke frankly about the fact that our members are not reflective of the diversity of the communities within which we live and work. He spoke about land trusts as being a solution to the problems of sprawl and land fragmentation, but that in all honesty, we have created social fragmentation.

Peter Forbes and others spoke about a "new movement toward Whole Communities". That land trusts could work collaboratively with many other groups who work for inclusiveness in our society, sustainable agriculture, food security, housing and employment to create "Whole Communities", which reconnect people to the land, and to each other.

The Center for Whole Communities is a nonprofit that provides training and inspiration for those wanting to change the way we live and do business. The center has developed a new tool by which we can measure our success

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From the President's Desk ...

Reflections on Land Trust Alliance Rally 2006

The Value of Rally: When I first became an ACLT volunteer in 1998 (to set up the water quality monitoring program), I had only the most general sense of what a land trust is and what land trusts mean nationwide. Perhaps the best way to learn about land trusts is from the Land Trust Alliance or LTA. In mid-October, Karen Edgecombe, Liz Stoffel and I attended the LTA Rally 2006 in Nashville, Tennessee. On many levels, it was time well spent. Among other things it triggered a healthy reflection on the value of land trusts and helped reinforce the commitment to the mission and goals of ACLT.

A few statistics underscore the cumulative impact of land trusts. In 1950, there were fewer than 50 land trusts; by 2003, there were more than 1500. According to the Land Trust Alliance 2005 Annual Report, "Land trusts have saved more than 34 million acres - an area far larger than the entire National Park system in the lower 48 states - and each year protect 800,000 additional acres of the best of the American land." Of this, conservation easements totaled 5.1 million acres.

The Value of LTA: LTA's value can be measured in many ways, including connections made, technical know-how acquired, and practical ideas applied. It is also instrumental in educating politicians about land trusts and protecting and strengthening the legal framework critical to land trust success. Last year, much of the talk at Rally was about Congressional interest in severely restricting the tax benefits from donating easements. LTA spearheaded a successful effort that spanned the political spectrum to protect this framework. On August 3, 2006 Congress approved "pro conservation" legislation. It was signed into law on August 17. From the LTA web site, the new law:

- Raises the deduction a landowner can take for donating a conservation easement from 30% of their income in any year to 50%;
- Allows qualifying farmers and ranchers to deduct up to 100% of their income; and
- Extends the carry-forward period for a donor to take tax deductions for a voluntary conservation easement from 5 to 15 years.

LTA emphasizes that this only applies to easements donated in 2006 and 2007. LTA will work toward making this change permanent and will look to local land trusts to weigh in with grass roots support.

Take-Home Ideas: Rally has a very utilitarian side. There are upwards of 150 seminars and workshops covering such diverse topics as arcane legal aspects of conservation easements; building membership; accreditation; building a major donor program; designing an effective web site; organizational development; and land use planning. There was even a session on conserving heirloom fruits. Over time, you will probably see a variety of improvements in ACLT's approach to things like fund raising, web access, advocacy and membership development. We will probably pursue accreditation, especially if it becomes a standard requirement for securing grants. These are the elements that make Rally worthwhile.

A Couple of Recommendations: There's a "fun" side to Rally, too. If you

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Around ACLT

Another Reason to Become an ACLT Volunteer

- *Get invited to one of ACLT's most exclusive events: Annual Volunteer Appreciation Dinner.*

This year, 65 volunteers joined us for an evening of good food and fun at Double Oak Farm. The event was held earlier this year because of Volunteer Coordinator, Seaona deGenaro's impending maternity leave (she had a healthy little boy on October 20). The night was magical; with tents lit by candles, string lights and paper lanterns. Designed by the inspiration of ACLT volunteer, Donna Wilson, everything was decorated beautifully. The barbecue and beer were really excellent, and homemade desserts were provided by ACLT staff. The volun-



Volunteers at the unveiling of the new Chesapeake Bay Gateways signs at the north side trail head at Double Oak Farm on the evening of the Volunteer Appreciation Dinner

teers were made comfortable with our new ACLT office surroundings, by open-house tours. The offices are now located in the former hunting lodge that sits at Double Oak Farm at the North Side (of Parkers Creek) Trailhead in Prince Frederick, Maryland.

This year's event included the special feature of the unveiling of the new trailhead signs and maps that were provided through a Chesapeake Bay Gateways Network (CBGN) grant. Everyone

was excited to hear that we are part of a new CBGN grant that is a collaborative effort with eleven other Southern Maryland sites for next year. The grant is centered around the John Smith 400 [years since his exploration of the Chesapeake Bay] celebration events and will include a monthly speaker series and an events calendar featuring all the sites. ACLT's speaker event will feature Geographer and Cartographer Professor Daniel McDermott discussing changes in the Chesapeake Bay. Another ACLT John Smith 400 event will be a paddle trip from Flag Ponds to Warriors Rest in conjunction with the Calvert County Department of Natural Resources.

ACLT volunteers are essential to everything that ACLT does. Volunteers do everything from maintaining trails and buildings, to helping in the office, to leading canoe and hiking trips, to following good forest stewardship, to helping to deal with invasive pests, to setting up high quality and fun events. We, the staff, thank you for all the hard work that you do, throughout the year. We can't thank you enough! *We really, really appreciate you.*

If you are not an ACLT volunteer now, but want to be part of the fun, and get an invitation to the Volunteer Appreciation Dinner 2007 please contact us at info@acltweb.org; the opportunities abound.



Land Manager Liz Stoffel presenting the new Chesapeake Bay Gateways signs at the north side trailhead at Double Oak Farm on the evening of the Volunteer Appreciation Dinner

Frances Feagin: Profile of an ACLT Charter Member's Love of the Out-of-Doors Life

Mr. and Mrs. Jefferson Ball Feagin - Jerry and Frances - were early supporters of the American Chestnut Land Trust, concerned about the growing development surrounding Scientists' Cliffs. It was clear that something needed to be done to protect the watershed, so they leaped to the support of the ACLT as soon as it was proposed. In fact, they were number 17 of the original "charter" members, putting in money to help the land trust get started.

Natives of Alabama, the Feagins' association with Scientists' Cliffs began in 1954 when they were introduced to the community by Jerry's cousin, Irene Feagin Scott. In addition to hosting them on many weekends and holidays, Irene and Tom Scott invited the Feagins to use their cabin while they were out of town on long trips. The Feagins eventually bought their own cabin on Balsam Road in Gate B in April of 1968 from the Crandalls, becoming the third owners of that cabin, one of the rustic log cabins built after World War II. Jerry was an enthusiastic fly fisherman, and had his eye on property in the Shenandoah Valley with a trout stream, but was persuaded by Frances that a place on the Bay would be better for visits from their grandchildren and other relatives and friends. He soon converted to being a Bay fisherman, going after the blues and crabs with zest. Before long, Jerry bought a 16-foot sailboat, Precious, which he enjoyed for 15 years.

From 1968 on, Jerry and Frances spent summers at the Bay, with Jerry commuting to his Department of Defense office in Alexandria, Virginia. After he retired in 1974, they moved out to Scientists' Cliffs before Easter and stayed until Thanksgiving. He was active on the Scientists' Cliffs Beach Committee and in the Music Group, and he sang in the choir at Christ Church on Broomes Island Road. Both Jerry and Frances participated in the annual Jousting Tournament at Christ Church, Frances picking crab for the crab cakes and Jerry registering the riders. Frances became a fixture on the beach,

walking their Kerry blue terrier, Pittipat, and later, Katie, everyday.

Meanwhile, their house at Scientists' Cliffs had become a mecca for their relatives, with yearly visits from their son Jeff, his wife Nan, and their three children. Later it became the focus of an annual house party held by niece Olivia Alison, and yearly visits from granddaughter Maggie, husband John, and their two sons. The climax of Jerry and Frances's entertaining was "Camp Feagin" in 1991 after a wedding in Richmond. Since they couldn't get to the wedding, the wedding came to them! Twenty relatives came, sleeping at the Scotts' as well as Caroline Van Mason's and others' cabins.

Jerry and Frances were not recent converts to the out-of-doors life. Frances grew up in north Alabama in the small city of Anniston, which lies in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains. Sunday afternoons were spent walking in the woods with her father and grandfather who knew the nearby hills and mountains from their bird hunting. As a teenager, she loved camp, which for her was in the hills near Birmingham. In her thirties, she became president of the Cottaquilla Girl Scout Council, and was instrumental in building a Girl Scout camp in the mountains near Anniston, Camp Cottaquilla. In contrast, Jerry grew up in small town Union Springs in south Alabama. Jerry always loved the natural world, fascinated by weather, birds and fishing.

He, too, was active in Scouting, serving as Scoutmaster for Boy Scout Troop 7 in Anniston for a number of years. Whether with his Scouts or with Frances and their two children, he hiked all around



Jerry and Frances Feagin, standing with their niece Olivia Alison, in front of their cabin at Scientists' Cliffs.

Anniston, and in the mountains and canyons of North Alabama and North Carolina.

Many summer afternoons were spent by all four Feagins at a small lake outside of Anniston where swimming and fishing were the main attractions—as well as avoiding the Water Moccasins. Jerry and his son Jeff became crack fishermen under the tutelage of Frances’s father, pulling in crappie and bass by the dozens. All four Feagins became experts at rowing boats around the lake.

In 1953 the Feagins began a new life in Falls Church, Virginia. Up until then Jerry had been the civilian manager of the Anniston Army Depot outside Anniston. The opportunity to work at the headquarters of what became the Army Materiel Command at the Pentagon was irresistible, so the four Feagins headed up to what Frances always referred to as “the frozen North.” Jerry’s cousin Irene Scott, also from Union Springs, became their lifeline in Northern Virginia, soon introducing them to the joys of the Chesapeake Bay.

Jerry died at 84 in 1994; Frances is nearly 93. It is fitting now, with Jerry gone and Frances no longer able to participate in volunteer work, that she should make her contribution to ACLT a financial one, something that can keep giving after they both are gone.

Crawford “Corky” Feagin Stone,
Frances Feagin’s daughter

Frances Feagin made a very generous gift of appreciated stock in loving memory of her husband Jefferson Ball Feagin in September 2006. The Board of Directors of ACLT has designated this gift to the Land Management Endowment Fund where, as Crawford Feagin Stone writes, her mother’s contribution “can keep giving after they both are gone.” On behalf of the Board of Directors and Staff of the ACLT, we express our sincere gratitude to the Feagin family.

Karen Edgecombe, Executive Director

Volunteers at Work: Moving the Office to Double Oak Farm



Above: The U-Haul Truck is ready to pull out of the former ACLT Office at Gate A, Scientists’ Cliffs, to move the office to Double Oak Farm on August 26, 2006. Pictured here are *some* of the *many* volunteers who turned out that day to help with the move. In the truck: Chuck Hankins and Liz Stoffel. Fore-ground, left to right: Glenn & Karen Edgecombe; Nick Bohaska; Steve Hardman; Dave Bohaska; Jim Murphy, Sr.; Ryan Murphy; Sam Miller; Ronnie Carvalho; James Murphy; Ron Carvalho; and our fearless U-Haul Driver, Pat Murphy.

Below: ACLT’s new office as it looked for the first member tour on the night of the Volunteer Appreciation Dinner



And speaking of volunteers: Woodworkers Wanted

If you have a talent for woodworking and are looking for a project for the long winter months, please contact the ACLT Office. We would like to begin a Memorial Bench Program to place benches along our trails.

Blustery 20th Anniversary Celebration and Silent Auction Gets Warm Reception

At this year's sold out fall celebration, ACLT added new elements to one of its most popular events (the Chili Cook-Off, Silent Auction & Dance) while keeping many features of the past. The October 7th event was once again held under large tents at the Scientists Cliffs' Community House. While frequent adjustments to the big tents were needed during preparations, on the evening of the event the weather turned dry and warm. The crowd flowed around the auction tables and the food and wine tables, where many friends were greeted and new acquaintances were made.

A locally grown theme was woven through the evening, which featured *Blue Wind Gourmet* foods made with locally grown ingredients and local Maryland wine from *Basignani Winery*. Over 100 items were donated by businesses and individuals for the silent auction. As with previous auctions, there was something for everyone: vacations and local outings including sports events, wine baskets, restaurant meals, jewelry, artwork, photography, and many unique items. ACLT thanks *all* of our generous donors for their contributions. For a complete list of the donors, please see the sidebar on page 7.

This year all of the food was prepared by Chef Rob Plant, owner of *Blue Wind Gourmet* located in California, Maryland. We selected Blue Wind as our caterer because Rob shares ACLT's values of promoting local agriculture and he creates exquisite gourmet dishes. He buys as many fresh ingredients as he can from Maryland farmers. Rob's over-the-top efforts as well as his significant monetary and in-kind donations turned our traditional chili cook-off event into an elegant and fun evening.

Chili remained the culinary centerpiece of the evening. The vegetarian, southwestern chicken and Black Angus chilies were served with cornbread, organic rice pilaf, a table full of chili accompaniments, and a salad of locally grown greens. In addition, Rob provided four delicious appetizers that were each paired with a Basignani wine. His mini crab cakes made with Chesapeake Bay lump crabmeat served with a Remoulade sauce and paired with Basignani's Seyval wine, were the runaway hit. Incredible homemade apple pie paired with a sweet Basignani Riesling and hot beverages rounded out the evening. Attendees were well pleased with the food and wine offerings. Unlike previous years, no one went hungry at this celebration!

Wines from *Basignani Winery* complimented the food. We chose the 15-year-old winery because around 80% of their wine is made with grapes raised on their 18-acre vineyard located in Sparks, Maryland just north of Baltimore in beautiful horse country. Basignani donated three cases of the wine to help ACLT celebrate its 20 year anniversary.

Rockfish, a local bluegrass band made up of Gary Pendleton, Ray Saunders, Susan Berman and Chris Garrett, provided lively music throughout the bidding and after dinner. *Rockfish* has entertained ACLT members and their guests at past Chili Cook-Offs and selected the ACLT as its charity of choice when they performed at Calvert Artists Showcase.

ACLT and the organizing committee express our thanks to all who attended and to all who generously donated their time and wonderful items for the auction. You made this event a great success and a fitting tribute to ACLT's twenty years of successful land conservation and stewardship.

Joy Bartholomew, Event Chair
Andrea Clarke, ACLT Board
Liaison/Event Co-chair



Top left to right: Carl Fleischhauer, Pat Tantum, Secona deGennaro, and Marie Bundy.
Bottom: Live music provided by Rockfish.

Thank you for your generosity and support.

ACLT thanks the following individual donors for their fabulous silent auction items

Jerry Adams	Ted Graham
Bruce Armstrong	Jeff Greene
Stanley and Barbara Benning	Mike Koloski
Paul and Doris Berry	Steve and Sue Kullen
Mary Blayney	Mimi Little
Dan and Tina Boesz	Bill McGillicuddy
Grace Mary Brady	Virginia O'Neill
Denise Breitburg	Chris and Maggie Reynolds
Anne Brown	Sandy Roberts
Marie Bundy	Roberta Safer
Anne Cole Johnston	Charles Serpan
Ann Crain	Susan Shaw
Paul and Diana Dennett	Steve and Renee Stadelman
Freeman and Ellen Dodsworth	Jeremy and B.J. Stone
Rich and Kathy Dreason	Patricia and Patrick Tantum
Elaine Dunkle	George Tornell
Ralph and Mary Dwan	Bill and Pam White
Roy Dyson	Donna and Paul Wilson
Karen and Glenn Edgecombe	Alan Wilson
Dave and Ellen Farr	Beverly Wycoff Jackson
Dean Farver	Harriet Yaffe
Carl Fleischhauer	
Reid Goforth	

The following people and their businesses supported the ACLT Celebration with donations of auction items and professional services. Please help us show our appreciation by giving them your business

Brian Treece, *Banana Banner*
Bertero and Lynne Basignani, *Basignani Winery*
Rob Plant, *Blue Wind Gourmet*
Sidney G. Bowen, *Bowen's Florist*
C. Douglass Alves, Jr., Director, *Calvert Marine Museum*
Jack Beckwith, *Celebration Tents*
Thomas Raley, *Chesapeake Hills Golf Club*
Jeffrey R. Owens, CFO, *Clyde's Restaurant Group*
Judi Fields, *Dickson's Fields of Flowers*
Parran Collery, *Eartha Tile*
John Little, *Flag Harbor Marine Service*
Frank Cleary, *Fridays Creek Winery*
Valerie Lancaster, *Healing Spirit Hands*
Jaime Padilla, *Jake and Al's Chop House and Adam's Ribs Restaurant*
Heather and Darren Maertens, *Maertens Jewelers*
Mel Jerome, *Melville Guest House*
Ed Apple, *Prince Frederick Graphics*
Carol Petraitis, *Red Hot & Blue Restaurant*
Fred and Patrice Ferris, *Satin Doll Trio*
Rosie Connelly, *Wentworth Nursery*
John Parker, *World Gym*

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as a land trust called “Measures of Health”. “Measures of Health” is a matrix which allows us to evaluate every land transaction and program we have by looking at them for these six practices or qualities: 1) Justice and Fairness; 2) Strengthening Connections between Land and People; 3) Civic Engagement and Social Capital; 4) Healthy Natural Lands and Biodiversity; 5) Healthy Habitat for People; and 6) Stewardship.

As a Land Manager, teaching stewardship has been an important part of what I do. I want people to have a connection to the land, without it they won't care. I want our communities to be whole and work together to care about what we are doing to the natural world. It will never be the same again because of what we have already done. But if we work together, make connections to the land, treat each other fairly and with respect, and create relationships; then we can teach stewardship for the future. The ‘end of nature’ (as we know it) may be upon us, but I want to try to leave something good and positive for my grandchildren and their children.

For more information on “Whole Communities” and “Measures of Health” visit www.wholecommunities.org.

Elizabeth Stoffel
Land Manager



A sampling of the auction items for sale at the 20th Anniversary Celebration and Auction

Patricia Tantum Joins ACLT Staff as Part-time Outreach and Communications Coordinator



It is a pleasure to be the newest member of the ACLT staff. My name is Patricia Tantum and I am the part-time Outreach and Communications Coordinator.

My previous employment was with Maryland Environmental Service where for 17 years I was a Recycling Project Manager. I worked with county and municipal officials statewide to establish 170 used motor oil collection sites. The program collected 900,000 gallons of used motor

oil annually, which kept this potentially harmful material from contaminating the soil, ground water and other precious natural resources. Conference and event planning was another facet of my professional career path.

Prior to that, as Chemist and Laboratory Supervisor at Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission's Patuxent Water Filtration Plant, I provided customers - the public - with scientific assurance of safe drinking water as well as customer service support and public education.

I am a Hokie fan during football season and a Patriot supporter during basketball season. You see a long, long time ago I earned a B.S in Chemistry from George Mason University and a M.S. in Environmental Science and Engineering from Virginia Tech.

Huntingtown is home to my husband, Patrick Simpson, the cat O.D. (which stands for "Out Door") and me. Our large vegetable garden is the main feature of the front yard and supplies the neighborhood with grape tomatoes, okra, and zucchini squash.

When I am not doing weekend outreach events for ACLT or gardening, I can be found at Virginia International Raceway (VIR) near Danville, Virginia. I am a member and a Regional Registrar for the Sports Car Club of America

(SCCA) North Caroline Region. Patrick and I enjoy participating in sport car racing events with our 1971 BMW 1600 "AeroBrick". Patrick is the race car driver and I'm the crew chief and caterer.

While Patrick works on the race car, I have been teaching myself to knit. My first and most rewarding project was knitting a chemo hat for a friend undergoing chemotherapy treatment for leukemia. I have completed a scarf and a sleeveless sweater. Unfortunately, working part-time at ACLT has delayed finishing a modular constructed channel-style jacket made with specialty or "diva" yarns.

I have had the opportunity to meet many members and volunteers at the 20th Anniversary Celebration in early October and hope to meet more of you at the Greens Sale and Beach Hayride on December 9th at Warrior's Rest Sanctuary. Please stop by and introduce yourself.

Finally, thank you for the warm welcome you have given me. I look forward to working with the ACLT Board of Directors, Committee Members, volunteers and the membership at large to implement the plans and goals of this unique organization.

ACLT Trails Reminder

For the hunting seasons 2006-2007, trails are closed on the North Side as follows:

- Shotgun: November 25-December 9 & January 5 & 6
- Black Powder: December 16-30

Sunday hiking is allowed but please be aware that on some Sundays there may be hunting on neighboring properties. See <http://www.dnr.state.md.us/huntersguide/regionb.asp> for more details.

ACLT Calendar of Events – 2007

- Saturday, February 10, 9:30 a.m. – 12 noon – *2006 ACLT Annual Meeting* – A chance to meet other ACLT members and find out about what the ACLT has accomplished in 2006.
- Saturday, February 17, 1:30 – 3:30 p.m. – *Guided Winter Woodland Hike* – Dress appropriately for this memorable afternoon hike. Join the ACLT staff for winter views of Parkers Creek and the Chesapeake Bay.
- Sunday, February 25, 2:30 p.m. – ACLT and the Calvert Marine Museum bring you Al Gore’s film: *An Inconvenient Truth: A Global Warning* followed by a community discussion in the Museum’s exhibition building auditorium, refreshments following. No charge.
- Saturday, March 10, 9 a.m. – 12 noon – *Hiking Trail Maintenance Day* – Join ACLT staff and volunteers as we work on the hiking trails in preparation for spring and summer hikers. Cook out and picnic lunch for volunteers at noon.
- Saturday, April 7, time to be announced – *Spring Guided Hike on Gravatt East* – Enjoy the newly spruced up trails and spring’s early offerings on the East Loop Trail.
- Saturday, April 21, 8:30 a.m. – 12 noon – *Earth Day* – Volunteer crews will be working along roadsides and on selected sites. This is a fabulous chance to meet neighbors and improve the Calvert County community. A picnic lunch will be hosted at the end of the day’s activities.
- Saturday, June 2, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. – *Family Festival Day at Double Oak Farm* – A day of family activities, food & farm fun to celebrate the natural and cultural resources of Calvert County.
- Saturday, June 16, time to be announced – *Paddle from Flag Ponds to Parkers Creek* – Start early to get in shape for this seven-mile paddle in celebration of the Captain John Smith 400 Year Anniversary.
- Saturday, September 8, 9 a.m. – 12 noon – *Holly Arboretum Work Day* – Join the Holly Arboretum Volunteer Crew at the bucolic Warrior’s Rest as they prune and maintain these historic trees.
- Tuesday, September 11, 7 p.m. – *John Smith 400 Speaker Series* – “What’s Happening to our Beloved Chesapeake?” Hear Professor McDermott speak at this ACLT-sponsored event, part of a year-long series made possible by a grant from the Chesapeake Bay Gateways Network.
- Saturday, September 29 – *Annual Dinner & Silent Auction* – Enjoy locally grown foods freshly prepared, bid at the auction, catch up with other ACLT members and enjoy the evening!
- Saturday, October 13, 9 a.m. – 12 noon – *Fall Colors Hike at Double Oak* – You can’t beat the fall colors at Double Oak Farm! Don’t miss the last guided hike of the year.
- Saturday, October 20, 9 a.m. – 12 noon – *Barn Work Day* – Interested in historic tobacco barns? Join us as we repair one of ACLT’s old tobacco barns. Volunteers with carpentry skills needed.
- Saturday, November 10, 6:30 pm – 8:30 p.m. – *Volunteer Appreciation Dinner* – The ACLT staff hosts this incredible evening with delicious food and handmade items to honor and thank our dedicated and faithful volunteers.
- Saturday, December 1, 9 a.m. – 12 noon – *Holly Arboretum Work Day* – Volunteer to help us get the Warrior’s Rest Arboretum shaped up for the greens sale.
- Saturday, December 8, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. – *Greens Sale and Beach Hayride* – Purchase fresh cut evergreens for holiday decorations, drink hot cider and take a hayride to the beach.

In addition, ACLT offers guided canoe trips from April through October. Reservations are required for these popular trips. Please check our website for dates and times, www.acltweb.org.

Newest Member of ACLT



Avery Harrison deGennaro, son of Seaona deGennaro, ACLT's Community Relations Coordinator, was born October 20, 2006. Seaona will be returning part-time in early 2007.

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haven't visited Nashville, you're missing out. Both the Grand Ole Opry (Vince Gill was a real treat) and the Country Music Hall of Fame should not be missed. The Nashville area is surrounded by lots of history and natural beauty - much of it preserved by organizations like the Land Trust of Tennessee. We were also treated to a talk, interspersed with readings, by Janisse Ray. She grew up in a junk yard in Georgia (she now lives in Vermont) and wrote a highly acclaimed memoir, "Ecology of a Cracker Childhood." One online review of the book says that, "It is a marvelous quilt of stories, often funny, often sad, but always compelling."

Reflections: For sheer dedication, passion, commitment and a real sense of common purpose, it's difficult to surpass those who are active in land trusts, large and small, across America. All of us active in ACLT have seen these traits in the donors, staff and many volunteers instrumental in ACLT's twenty years of success; it's inspiring to participate in the Land Trust Alliance Rally and see that this is representative of land trust members across the country.

Rally is a way to connect with acquaintances, old and new, take away ideas that may be useful back home and indulge in a little reflection about the value and contributions of land trusts. It's heartening that the kinds of things that ACLT has accomplished and continues to work toward are replicated in many places across the country. Next year, Rally is in Denver. Think about attending - I know that I will. *For more information on the Land Trust Alliance visit www.lta.org.*

Ted Graham
President, ACLT



The holiday season is approaching....

and the ACLT Retail Shop has just the right gift!

- Tee Shirts—Adult and Children sizes
Parkers Creek
Neon colored (children only)
- Note Cards (The Fleischhauer Collection)
Ten note cards of ACLT Treasures
- Hand crafted Tiles
The Heron (Parkers Creek)
Jack-in-the-pulpit (ACLT)
For the Love of the Land
- Parkers Creek Jewelry by Maertens Jewelers

For more information on sizes and availability, call Pat Tantum at 410-414-3400



Greens Sale and Beach Hayride

Saturday, December 9th
Warrior's Rest Sanctuary
11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Purchase freshly cut evergreens, wreaths and garland for holiday decorations, drink hot cider and take a hayride to the beach. Retail items for sale include Tulip Poplar tealight holders & yule logs, ACLT inspired jewelry designed by Maerten's Jewelers, hand-made tiles by Parran Coltery, t-shirts, polo shirts and freshly cut greens.

Join us for a beautiful afternoon of celebrating the season!



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT ...

New Members

The ACLT would like to welcome the following new members who have joined since the Summer 2006 Newsletter:

Percy & Janet Fulcher
Emalie J. Gibbons-Baker
Dennis & Gail Jackman
Thomas & Mary Kirby
Martha Middleton Lloyd
Cheryl L. McKinlay
Karen Molines & Gary Pendleton
Greg Montgomery
Robert & Danette Noble
Ralph & Anne Oman
Todd & Christina Porter
Stacey & Joe Ruff
John Spence
Steven & Jacqueline Swanson
Patricia Tantum & Patrick Simpson

Spring Appeal

The ACLT wishes to thank the following members who made a contribution to the 2006 SPRING Appeal Campaign since our last newsletter

John & Catherine Bailey

Fall Appeal

The ACLT wishes to thank the following members who made a contribution to the 2006 Fall Appeal Campaign

Paul & Diana Dennett
Mr. & Mrs. Peter Stathis
Lelia Blackwell & John Watson

General Contributions and Designated Gifts

Thank you to the following for your generous gifts:

Elaine Loomis
Brian Griffin, Honeywell Hometown Solutions
William & Millicent Gay for Land Preservation
Wiley Rein Fielding LLP
EBB Tithes (an Eleanor Rickel Foundation)
Will Hunter: In honor of Byron & Anne Hanke, my Aunt & Uncle
David Lewis

Thank you to the following contributors who helped offset Auction expenses:

Dave & Judith Bonior
Calvert Internal Medicine Group, P.A.
Tom & Judith Carmany
Robert & Sally Douglass
Carl Fleischhauer
Philip & Grace Fleming
Magda Freeman
Dan & Jane Head
Conrad Hoska
Charles & Dorothy Howe
Adam & Andrea Joseph
Ron & Elsie Magnussen
Don Mighell
Anthony & Connie Morella
F. & Linda Nutter
Robert Orsini
William M. Plummer
Stephen Straka
June Wilkins
Roberta Safer & Klaus Zwilsky

Gift Memberships

Thank you to the following members who donated a gift membership since our last newsletter:

Paul & Diana Dennett
Mike & Ginger Walls

Memorial Contributions

Thank you to the following members who made memorial contributions since our last newsletter:

Donation in memory of "Max" faithful dog of Alan Wilson & Dr. Steve Peters:
Patricia Lynch Ewell & Julian J. Ewell

In-Kind Donations

Richard & Guenever Aldrich - Office sitting area couch
Model Home Interiors (Bobby Pearson) - Office Furniture and Shelving
Line-X Plus of Prince Frederick (David Whitaker) - Line-X protective bed liner for Kubota RTV

Come Join Us!

Detach and Mail to: The American Chestnut Land Trust, Inc., P.O. Box 2363, Prince Frederick, MD 20678

Name _____ e-mail _____

Address _____

Phone _____ I (we) learned about ACLT from _____

Regular Membership

Corporate Membership

___ Land Saver - \$35.00

___ Habitat Protector - \$500.00

___ Land Saver Corporate - \$150.00

___ Land Protector - \$60.00

___ Trustee of Land - \$1000.00

___ Land Protector Corporate - \$250.00

___ Land Conservator - \$150.00

___ Sustaining - \$2500.00

___ Land Conservator Corporate - \$500.00

The American Chestnut Land Trust is a 501 (c) (3) charitable organization. A copy of the current ACLT financial statement is available on request. Requests should be directed to the American Chestnut Land Trust, Inc, P.O. Box 2363, Prince Frederick, MD 20678 or call (410) 414-3400. For the cost of copies and postage, documents and information submitted under the Business Regulation Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland are available from the Secretary of State.

American Chestnut Land Trust, Inc.
Post Office Box 2363
Prince Frederick, MD 20678

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