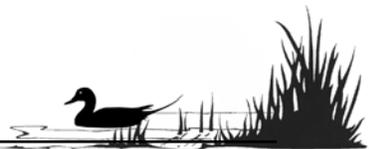


Watershed Observer



NEWSLETTER OF THE AMERICAN CHESTNUT LAND TRUST - VOLUME 24 NO. 2, SPRING 2010

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CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

MAY 23 GUIDED CANOE TRIP (10:00 A.M. — 1:00 P.M.)
JUNE 12 PARKERS CREEK TO FLAG PONDS PADDLE (7:30 A.M. — 12:00 P.M.)

SEE THE FULL CALENDAR ON PAGE 7 OR ON THE WEB.

From the President's Desk ...

Maryland's Support for Land Conservation: Its Importance to ACLT

Summary – A key part of ACLT's mission is to “protect the natural and cultural resources of the Parkers Creek and Governors Run watersheds for the benefit of this and future generations.” That ACLT has as much land to protect as it does is attributable in large part to Maryland's Program Open Space (POS). More than two-thirds of the preserved land in the Parkers Creek watershed was acquired, at least in part, with POS and Rural Legacy funds. There are still significant tracts of land in the watershed that would be welcome additions and are likely to score well using Maryland's targeting criteria. Like everything else, however, the state's bleak financial picture results in a cloud over POS-funded activities. At this time of severe budget constraints, it's instructive to reflect on the importance of POS to the mission of ACLT and prospects for the future. While the legislative session that just ended kept POS fully funded for this year, it was not without pressure for substantial reductions.

Maryland's History of Land Conservation – Maryland has a longstanding commitment to land conservation for which those who enjoy ACLT's land should be truly grateful. While ACLT owns over 900 acres outright in the Parkers Creek and Governors Run watersheds, the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR) owns about 1,780 acres which are managed by ACLT. In addition, ACLT holds conservation easements on four properties totaling 360 acres that were acquired using Rural Legacy funds and Calvert County owns 215 acres in the Parkers Creek watershed also acquired using Rural Legacy funds. Thus over 2,300 acres owe their protected status to state-supported conservation programs.

Program Open Space – POS was established in 1969. It has two components, “Stateside” to fund state acquisition of targeted “parklands, forests, wildlife habitat, natural, scenic and cultural resources for public use” according to the DNR website. There is also a “Localside” part of POS which is made available to local governments for local park, recreation and conservation purposes. The cornerstone of POS is the 0.5% property transfer tax. As DNR works to optimize its use of acquisition funds, it screens candidate tracts based on “scientific data, management priorities, and public needs.” The fact that ACLT stands ready, willing and able to assume responsibility for management and operation of any new land acquired in the Parkers Creek watershed is a factor that has helped Parkers Creek to score well in the DNR system.

Online at
<http://acltweb.org>



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Published quarterly by the American Chestnut Land Trust. The ACLT is dedicated to the preservation of Calvert County, Maryland's Natural and Historical Resources. Since it was established in 1986, ACLT has preserved over 3,000 acres. We own 911 acres, manage 1,780 acres owned by the State of Maryland, and hold conservation easements on 360 privately-owned acres.

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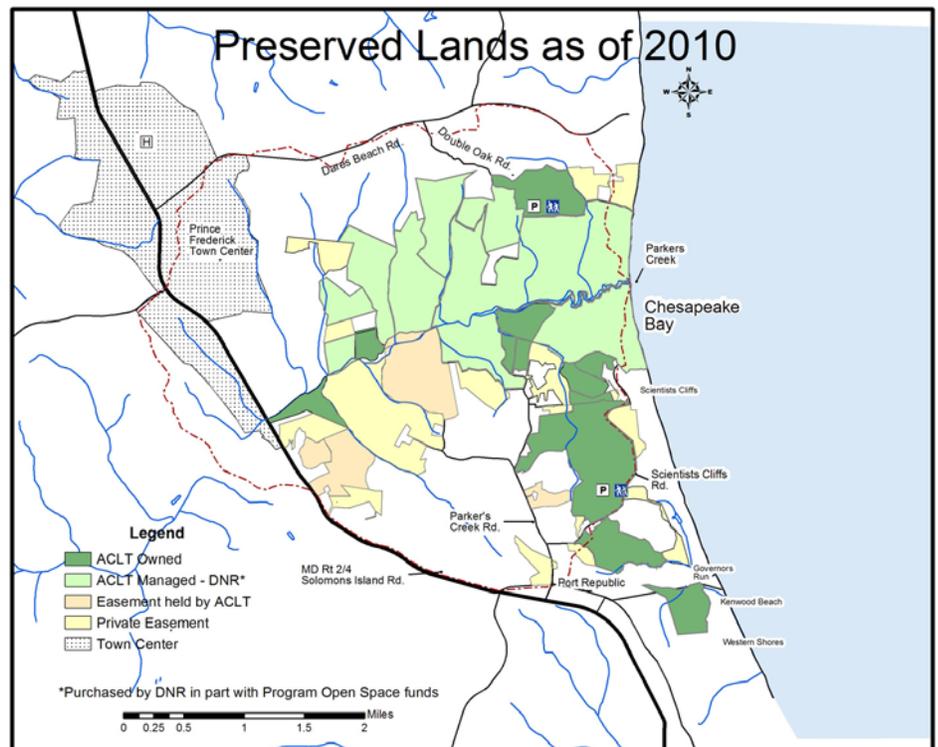


State Budgetary Pressures – POS revenue declines in hard economic times and the legislature has in the past elected to use at least some of it to cover other budget shortfalls. In FY 2010, the legislature chose to use bond money to move forward with some POS projects. The use of bonds enabled some of the POS cash to be used elsewhere.

During the legislative session that ended in mid April, intense budget pressure was felt in all quarters. Funding for land conservation was no exception. News coverage in the session's waning days was illustrative: **First Click, Maryland, Friday, April 9, 2020:** "And as of Thursday, funding for the state's long-running Program Open Space, remained a question mark." **MarylandReporter.com, Thursday, April 8, 2010:** "A key element that is still on the table is how much lawmakers will cut from the budget for Program Open Space, the state's land preservation initiative." **HometownAnnapolis.com, Sunday, April 11, 2010:** "The Senate version of the capital budget cuts \$17.6 million from the Rural Legacy Program, \$11.8 million from the Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Program and the entire \$10 million from the state land-acquisition share of Program Open Space." These proposed cuts by the Senate committee were reductions to what had been proposed in the governor's budget. In the waning hours of the session, the legislature adopted the governor's budget.

Prospects – As long as revenues are down and budgets are tight, those whose mission is to preserve and protect open space can expect keen competition for scarce funds. It is important that ACLT continue its close ties with DNR to identify properties that score well and also stay attuned to the budgetary realities in Annapolis. It's clear that POS has been a large part of ACLT's success; keeping POS viable is critical to sustaining ACLT's mission.

Ted Graham,
President, ACLT



Around ACLT

Annual Membership Meeting Highlights

About 100 people attended the 2009 annual meeting of the membership of ACLT and, by a voice vote, elected three renewing board members – Marcy Damon, Pat Griffin and Caroline VanMason – and three new board members – Gary Loew, Steve Stadelman, and Randi Vogt. Retiring board members Al Basile, Anne Cole Johnston, and Alan Wilson were given a framed aerial photograph of Parkers Creek in appreciation for their service on the board.

Returning board member Gary Loew and his wife Sandra are Charter Members of ACLT. Gary was active in the formation and operation of ACLT where he has twice previously served on the ACLT Board: first, as Treasurer, from 1986-1990 and then, Vice President, from 1995-1996. Gary has had a long and distinguished career with the US Army Corps of Engineers, currently serving at Headquarters in Washington, DC as Chief of the Programs Integration Division. Since returning to assignment in Washington, Gary has been active on the ACLT Budget & Finance and Administration & Fundraising Committees.

New board member Steve Stadelman and his wife Renee have been members of ACLT since 2002. Even prior to joining ACLT, Steve served as the for-ester for the Maryland Forest Service, Southern Region, and in that capacity assisted ACLT with the preparation of forest management plans. Steve has a Masters of Science in Environmental Management and a Bachelors of Science in Forest Management presently serving as Executive Officer in the Environmental Division of the National Guard. For his 2006 graduate degree, Steve completed a forest vegetation classification study and map of all of the woodlands managed by ACLT. Steve will be co-chairing ACLT's Membership & Outreach Committee.

New board member Randi Vogt and her husband Peter are also Charter Members of ACLT. Randi served for 24 years with the Calvert County Department of Planning & Zoning, most of which time was spent as Principal Project Planner. She worked on the Calvert County Land Preservation and Recreation Plans (1980, 1994, and 1997), Archi-



Above: ACLT Members gathering for the 2009 Annual Meeting

Below: Joy Woppert and Ted Graham presented awards to four of the individuals who contributed over 100 volunteer hours – Paul Berry, Jeff Klapper, Ginny Murphy and Ken Romney. Others not shown were: Stan Benning,

tectural Review Standards, Town Center Master Plans, and the Calvert County Comprehensive Plans (1983, 1997, and 2004). In 1977 Randi proposed the concept of using transferable development rights to preserve agricultural land and Calvert County became the first county in the US to preserve land using this technique. She is currently serving on ACLT's Master Facilities Planning team.

ACLT is very fortunate to have such talented renewing and new board members to continue to guide the organization.

Among other highlights at the meeting, Joy Woppert, ACLT's Community Relations Coordinator, applauded the efforts of all ACLT volunteers, who contributed a cumulative total of over 5,600 hours of their time and talents to ACLT in 2009, and she especially recognized the efforts of nine individuals who had each donated over 100 hours.

ACLT President Ted Graham made presentations for two other awards noting that, "One of the most important parts of the entire annual meeting is the formal recognition of those who have contributed so much to the health and vibrancy of ACLT and to environmental quality in Calvert County. Tom Wisner received what amounts to a lifetime achievement award for his decades-long contributions to recognition of the Chesapeake Bay." Tom

One of the most important parts of the entire annual meeting is the formal recognition of those who have contributed so much to the health and vibrancy of ACLT and to environmental quality in Calvert County.

was presented with ACLT's 2009 Conservationist of the Year award prior to the annual meeting by Steve and Sue Kullen due to his ill health and ACLT made a donation to Calvert Hospice in his honor. Ted also found it "particularly moving to be able to present the Presidents' Award, signed by all four living presidents of ACLT, to Caroline VanMason. As a Charter Member and the only continuously serving Member of the Board of Directors since ACLT's inception,

Caroline embodies what it means to be an ACLT volunteer."

Jim Klein of Lardner/Klein Landscape Architects made a presentation about his ongoing work as a consultant to ACLT in the development of a Master Plan for Facilities and Interpretation. Jim's work is being funded by a grant from the Chesapeake Bay Gateways and Watertrails Network. Lardner/Klein has substantial experience working on the preparation of master plans for parks, trails, rivers, greenways and heritage areas. Jim has prepared two plans for the National Park Service on the New River Gorge in West Virginia and recently completed a Natural Resource Management Plan for the Elklick Woodlands Natural Area Preserve in Fairfax County, Virginia. In Southern Maryland, he prepared a Corridor Management Plan for a proposed Religious Freedom Byway for Charles and St. Mary's Counties that received high commendations from the state of Maryland.

About 30 ACLT members participated in a one-hour workshop following lunch. Members expressed their desire that trail interpretation features and facilities be confined primarily to the trail-



Caroline VanMason was the recipient of the coveted Presidents' Award

heads so as not to visually clutter the landscape and detract from the natural experience of the ACLT trails. There was support for both an east-west trail (the Prince Frederick to the Bay Overlook Trail) and a north-south trail, including the possibility of a pedestrian-only bridge near the site of the old Parkers Creek Road Bridge, with the cautionary note that care should be taken not to detract from the "wilderness" experience of canoeing Parkers Creek. There was no clear consensus as to whether ACLT is best served by centralizing long-range facilities at the north or south side trailhead. The board has instructed Jim Klein to continue to consider both locations for facilities in his draft concept plan.

As part of the grant, ACLT will also be hiring an interpretive planner to develop a long-range interpretive plan that will guide our development of new ways to inform and engage visitors to ACLT lands.

Karen H. Edgecombe
Executive Director

Two breakout workshop sessions were held following the annual meeting, led by Jim Klein and Elisabeth Lardner.





“Locally Yours”

As members of the land trust, you already understand the importance of the work that ACLT is doing in our community and you also know what a great party we can throw! This year, with a new venue for ACLT’s 15th annual dinner and auction, we are hoping to spread the word beyond our membership on both counts.

The theme of this year’s event is “*Locally Yours*” to signify that ACLT is *your* local land trust. We will be transforming the atrium of the St. John Vianney Family Life Center into an ACLT trail, complete with trail signs and photographs of scenes from ACLT preserved properties, to showcase all of the benefits that ACLT provides in our local community including:

- Recreational opportunities such as hiking our 15 miles of trails and canoeing or kayaking on beautiful Parkers Creek;
- Natural area studies including bird watching, photography, art, and scientific research;
- Volunteer stewardship opportunities such as trail building and maintenance, invasive plant control, barn and cemetery restoration, and deer herd management; and now
- Fresh, locally grown produce through our Double Oak Farm CSA.

This year, for the first time, the event will be held at St. John Vianney, which ties in very nicely with ACLT’s plans for the new Prince Frederick to the Bay Overlook trail. It is our hope that this new trail will originate immediately behind the Family Life Center. The new venue will also, for the first time, provide us with an all-weather, fully-equipped facility that meets all our needs for food preparation, parking, and

climate control! But, most importantly, the new venue provides an opportunity for us to expand the invitation list beyond ACLT’s current membership so that we can spread the word on how much fun it is to “do good” by belonging to ACLT.

Once you wind your way through the trail to the gymnasium, you will find yourself at the local farmers’ market where you will sample small plates, “tapas” style, that will feature locally grown foods and where you will bid on silent and live auction items generously donated to benefit ACLT’s programs. All of the other accoutrements that you are used to, including a special section for children, toe-tapping music, and the chance to outbid your friends for your favorite auction items, will be there.

Locally Yours promises to be a fun, casual, grassroots event that captures the essence of ACLT. You won’t want to miss it, so be sure to mark your calendar now for Saturday, September 25, 2010, 6:30 – 10:30 p.m. Nowhere else in Calvert County does your \$35 ticket buy you so much local fun!

**Donate an Auction item!
Volunteer for the event!
Bring your friends!**

Contact the ACLT office to find out how you can get involved!

410-414-3400 or info@acltweb.org

Volunteer Spotlight – Ron Carvalho

If you have hiked ACLT's north side trails in the past few months, then you've been able to enjoy some of Ron Carvalho's handiwork. Ron has been a key player in the recent updating of our trail guide brochures. With hiking shoes on and GPS in hand, Ron and his scout troop made several trips out on the trails to make sure our maps were as exact as they could be. The result, with the design help of artist Suzanne Shelden (our fall 2009 spotlight volunteer), is a trail guide worth using and hanging on to!

Ron and his wife Susan live in Huntingtown with their 3 children, Ronnie, Nathaniel and Joey and their dog Toby. Ron grew up in the small town of Boxborough, Massachusetts, very close to Concord, but has since travelled around the US and all over the world as a Naval Officer. Ron received his undergraduate degree from Penn State and attended the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California for his Masters and Engineers degrees both in Electrical Engineering.

On his many travels, Ron had fallen in love with Calvert County and moved here after retiring from the Navy with his family in 1998. He currently works for Northrop Grumman as a Program Manager running Advanced Radar Technology Programs.

Ron started volunteering with the ACLT about four years ago when he met Liz Stoffel while geocaching. Liz's enthusiasm for finding scouts who needed some Eagle Projects piqued Ron's interest. To date, Ron's Scout Troop 347 has completed 6 Eagle projects on our north and south side trails and is beginning their 7th project this year. Their projects have included repairing the Swamp Trail boardwalk, cutting back invasive plants, clearing out old dump sites, assisting with the Auction and Family Day, and trail clearing.

Their largest projects have been to raise portions of the Swamp Trail boardwalk, which has been closed to hikers due to mischievous beaver activity. One of Ron's favorite memories was working on his son Ronnie's Eagle Project of building the bridge through the Swamp Trail. He shared, "I was amazed at how destructive and creative the beavers really are. They tackle some huge trees! When we finished the project a local hiking author [Paul

Elliott] was guiding a group through the trail and became the first people to use the bridge. He gave us a signed copy of the book as a gift."

Most recently, Ron and the scouts have completed taking GPS coordinates of our south side trails for the new guide that is currently on the design board. They have also spent time helping us do some preliminary ground work in marking the proposed Prince Frederick to the Bay Overlook Trail.

Many of Ron's weekends allow for some time to leisurely hike on the ACLT trails so he can relax and get away from it all with his dog Toby and youngest son Joey. Other than spending time at ACLT, Ron enjoys backpacking, scuba diving, boating on the bay, and cooking. In fact, Ron even invented a signature dish in college – Hot Dog Scampi!

Ron thoroughly appreciates what the ACLT has provided to his scouts – a place to locally come enjoy the outdoors, and also a resource for many lessons to learn in scouting. Ron continually passes onto these young boys that one of the most precious things we can give is our time (something money can't buy). Ron believes it is our civic duty to participate and volunteer to help improve our community.

From the ACLT staff, board of directors, members, and the numerous hikers that enjoy our trails every year, we send a heartfelt *THANK YOU* to Ron for his continued dedication to the ACLT's mission to connect people of all ages to the land...for years to come.

Joy Woppert
Community Relations Coordinator



Left: Ron and scouts on the ACLT north side property during one of their famous Worst Case Scenario Weekends. The scouts are only allowed one small back pack and no tents. They have to build their own shelters out of tarps, light their camp fires without using matches (they use flint and steel), search for their food caches which are hidden in the Land Trust (orienteering) and rescue a lost "hiker" rendering first aid and constructing a stretcher to carry them to safety. It's always a highlight for the scouts and provides great survival training.

Right: Ronnie Carvalho Troop and Hikers – Ronnie Carvalho (3rd from the right) and Scout Troop 347 standing on his finished Eagle Project with the hiking group that were the first to enjoy the new boardwalk.

Diaries from the Farm

My mom always has cacti in the house, and she'd be the first to say that it's the only plant she can keep alive. Somewhat disappointingly, this trait has been passed on to me. In an effort to grow a green thumb and learn more about organic gardening, I decided to work on the ACLT garden as a part of their CSA Work Share program. I've only been working with Jeff for a few weeks, but I have already learned so much about irrigation systems, natural herbicides, how to plant certain vegetables, and general plant life. (I had no idea that peas vine!) My work in the garden each week is always a different and fun experience that has touched on planting/ transplanting herbs, vegetables and flowers, weeding, thinning out crowded vegetable rows, trimming bamboo stakes, building a trellis, and watering. I love working outside and getting my hands dirty, and I can't wait to reap the rewards of the farm within the next few weeks when we can begin harvesting some of those delicious vegetables.

Jennifer Payne
CSA Workshare Participant



Jeff teaching Jen how the new irrigation system is installed and the way it effectively waters each plant.

ACLT Calendar of Events 2010

- | | | |
|------------------|------|---|
| May | 22 | Vine Vindicator Work Day (9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.) |
| | 23 | Guided Canoe Trip (10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.) |
| June | 12 | Parkers Creek to Flag Ponds Paddle (7:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.) |
| | 19 | Vine Vindicator Work Day (9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.) |
| | 26 | Guided Canoe Trip (3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.) |
| July | 10 | Guided Canoe Trip (2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.) |
| | 24 | Vindicator Work Day (9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.) |
| August | 7 | Guided Canoe Trip (1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.) |
| | 14 | Vine Vindicator Training (9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.) |
| September | 11 | Holly Arboretum Work Day at Warrior's Rest (9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.) |
| | 18 | Guided Canoe Trip (12:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.) |
| | 18 | Vine Vindicator Work Day (9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.) |
| | 25 | Silent Auction & Dinner Celebration (6:30 p.m. – 10:30 p.m.) |
| | 26 | Guided Canoe Trip (5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.) |
| October | 9-10 | Patuxent River Appreciation Days |
| | 22 | Volunteer Appreciation Dinner (6:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.) |
| | 24 | Guided Canoe Trip (3:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.) |
| | 24 | Barn Work Day (8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.) |
| | 30 | Vine Vindicator Work Day (9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.) |
| | 31 | Fall Foliage Hike at Double Oak (1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.) |
| December | 5 | Arboretum Work Day at Warrior's Rest (1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.) |
| | 11 | Greens Sale & Beach Hayride (11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.) |

Don't forget to record your volunteer hours online by going to <http://acltweb.org/Administration/volunteer/index.cfm>

Land Manager's Corner

Update on Land Management Projects 2010

Most of ACLT's members do not get to see all the projects that land management is responsible for (although we do have some volunteers who seem to help out with almost every project we have). At the annual meeting I said that "ACLT volunteers are wonderful". They truly are! ACLT could not accomplish all of the tasks that we are responsible for without the help of the incredible volunteers who work with such dedication. This is an update about the many things we are busy working on.

Our Wednesday Weed Whackers have finished cutting all the large stalks of bamboo in the area along Scientists Cliffs Road that is locally called the "frog pond". This has been a multi-year project, in which we have improved our techniques and efficiency. Team work is a major key to this project. We started the project using hand saws and burning the cut and dried bamboo. Now we have it down to a science, using an alligator chainsaw, laying the stalks just right in piles, quickly painting the cut edges with a special herbicide that can be used for wet areas and chipping the stalks to create a mulch that keeps the weeds down on the trails. We will have to go back occasionally to cut back any young shoots that come up - there were some areas where we did not use herbicide and found that these areas tend to have re-growth, but that is minor work in comparison to our starting point. We celebrated the end of the bamboo patch with lunch on the hillside overlooking the pond while the frogs sang to us. If you are interested in joining the team we work every Wednesday that the weather is decent.

Speaking of invasives, we received another Landowner Incentive Program Grant from the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (MD DNR) for us to continue our efforts in ridding ACLT lands of invasive plants and to promote habitat for native rare and endangered species. The funds will help us to purchase equipment and supplies to continue the program for another 5 years. We are very grateful to MD DNR for their support of our work.

This winter was about the hardest one I've experienced since I left western New York 30 years ago. The office was closed for 6 days and the trails were especially hit hard. We lost a lot of pine trees, the tops of cedars, hollies just snapped, the mountain laurel branches were twisted and bent, and everything seemed to fall in the trails. Once again, ACLT volunteers came out in force for a combined Hiking Trail Maintenance Day and Vine Vindicator Satur-

day. The trails were cleared within hours and look great. A number of volunteers helped cut bittersweet vines and remove wineberry plants. The picnic lunch was a lot of fun, too. A special thanks goes to the task leaders who led individual teams around the trails and in invasive control.

Joy Woppert and I held a training session for a new group of canoe guides. We went over safety procedures for leading trips on Parkers Creek. We taught the guides interpretive naturalist information about the creek, the history of ACLT, its mission, and the importance of the preservation of the extraordinary place, Warrior's Rest. We also discussed the importance of encouraging people who participate to become ACLT members.

The 6th grade of Calverton School celebrated their Earth Day with ACLT on Friday, April 16. Twenty-five students came to Double Oak Farm. Working in rotating teams they planted vegetables for the Community Shares Agriculture (CSA) farm, they created a native plant garden near the ACLT office, and they learned about non-native and native plants on a trail hike into the woods. The spring wildflowers were still in bloom and it was a beautiful day!



Top: Young and old came out for Hiking Trail Maintenance Day this year. Avery deGennaro, son of Mike and Seaona, helped rid ACLT properties of invasive plants.

Middle: Farm Manager Jeff Klapper working with 6th grade Calverton student to plant peppers in the garden as part of their Earth Day projects.

Bottom: Canoe guides receiving training in early April to provide visitors with an educational and enjoyable canoe trip on Parkers Creek.

ACLT's Earth Day Event, Saturday, April 17, was also a great success, with teams of volunteers cleaning up roadsides and interior areas of the land. We had families with young children pulling garlic mustard as older members cut vines and picked up trash around the Lemuel Wallace home site. A team worked in the Hance-Chesley Cemetery to stabilize a headstone from the 1800's while two other teams installed new posts for trail signs that will be numbered to match our new South Side Trail brochures. Up at Double Oak Farm, a group of volunteers built a covered structure that will serve as a temporary area to field wash the CSA produce. Of course, ACLT's Earth Day is not complete without another great community picnic.

If you attended the ACLT Annual Meeting this March, you heard about our Facilities and Interpretive Planning grant that we received from the Chesapeake Bay Gateways and Watertrails Network (National Park Service). This grant is allowing us to look into the future needs of ACLT. We are looking at what improvements the organization wants to make that will enhance the visitor and membership experience. We are grateful to the National Park Service for their support of this process. Land management's role is to advise the planning committee on what needs we see as essential. This includes trailhead facilities, trail interpretive needs, equipment storage, farm needs and other building needs. Land Management is interested in making sure that any new projects are in keeping with the mission to protect our natural and cultural resources.

ACLT is also working on what has been a long-term dream for many in Calvert County, which is to connect Prince Frederick town center to our trail which overlooks the Chesapeake Bay. ACLT received a Maryland Heritage Area Authority (MHAA) Grant to work on identifying possible routes and partnerships for the trail. One of our first tasks has been to find the best route and to take GPS coordinates so that it can be mapped. We have located old road beds and utilized existing trails as much as possible, to keep from disturbing any new areas. We are very grateful for the grant support from the MHAA.

Land management and the ACLT board are interested in gaining Land Trust Alliance (LTA) accreditation. To achieve this we need to standardize many of our procedures and to complete the tasks annually. Several of the procedures relate to making sure that our easements and fee simple lands are monitored, that our boundaries are identified, and that our reporting and record-keeping is timely.

Stewardship of ACLT properties is not always simple; it takes hard work and great volunteers. Thank you to everyone that has become involved and given your hearts, time, talents and strength. It is greatly appreciated! If you would like to get involved on any of these projects please contact Joy Woppert at volunteer@acltweb.org.

Liz Stoffel
Land Manager, ACLT

Earth Day 2010

Top: Earth Day activities included building this new pole barn to assist with daily farming activities including field washing the vegetables after harvesting.

Middle: Repairs were made on a headstone in the Hance-Chesley Cemetery with help from Ed Haack, Glynn Frank, and Bob Douglass

Bottom: Posts were installed on ACLT's south side trails to coordinate with the new trail guides being designed for our visitors. Our East Loop crew, pictured from left to right, included Ron Carvalho, Mark Edmondson, Mike and Ginger Walls, and Steve Cloak.



Join us for the 4th Annual

Park to Park Paddle 2010

Parkers Creek to Flag Ponds Paddle

Saturday, June 12th

7:30am – 12Noon

T-shirt, lunch, and shuttle for return provided!

Approximately 7 miles in distance and is moderately strenuous – experience recommended!

Register by calling 410-535-5327

\$35 per person – limited registration accepted.

\$30 per person if you are a BCNES/ACLT member!

Trip sponsored by The American Chestnut Land Trust,
Calvert County Natural Resources, &
Battle Creek Nature Education Society.



Land Manager's Wish List

Are you spring cleaning your barn, garage or basement? Please consider donating your used but **working** equipment. With ACLT's new Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) program at Double Oak Farm we are in need of equipment, especially a **working mid-sized garden tractor 25 – 30 hp with PTO and 3 point hitch**. Hand tools are also needed including shovels, trowels, rakes, cultivators and hoes. Donations such as these are greatly appreciated and are tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.

On the Hunt for Caches at ACLT

Geocaching has become a great way for ACLT to reach a new group of people from a variety of places. For those of you who haven't heard of geocaching; it is a worldwide high-tech treasure hunt played by adventure seekers equipped with GPS devices. The goal of the hunt is to find hidden "treasures" called geocaches and then to share your experiences online. Geocaching is enjoyed by people of all ages, with a strong sense of community and support for the environment.

While geocaches have been hidden on ACLT property for years, most recently we've been able to participate in The Star-Spangled Banner Geotrail through the Maryland Geocaching Society and the Friends of Chesapeake Bay Gateways and Watertrails Network. This "trail" of caches connects geocachers to the places and stories of the War of 1812, in a way that is relevant to our lives today, while also encouraging the public to visit unique sites throughout Washington, D.C., Maryland and Virginia.

The Star-Spangled Banner Geocache on ACLT south side trails has currently logged over 144 visits with at least 25 geocachers who came out on the opening day at the end of February. Online at www.geocaching.com you can find the coordinates for our cache, read comments from the geocachers, and see pictures! Many people thanked ACLT for opening our properties for a cache. One participant wrote on March 2nd:

"We spent this chilly overcast drizzly day weaving Virginia and Maryland's well carved shoreline collecting Star-Spangled Banner caches. Of the nine we rooted out, this place was the jewel. I've a feeling from our brief taste, this is the finest and most serene hiking among all of its sister parks. We'll be back..."

You can join the hunt by visiting www.geocaching.com, creating a free account, and searching by your zip code or by typing in "Star-Spangled Banner" into the advanced search option. See you on the trails!

If you're not a geocacher, but are still looking for something fun to do this summer, join Annmarie Gardens 2nd Annual Summer Safari! ACLT is participating again this year!. Sign up the whole family to answer questions and explore Calvert County's wonderful parks, museums, and other attractions. AMG's Summer Safari will run from June 1 – August 31. Please visit www.annmariegarden.org for more information.

Thank you for your support ...

New Members

ACLT would like to welcome the following new members since the Winter 2010 newsletter:

CDR & Mrs. Ronald Carvalho, Jr.,
USN (Ret.)

Dominion Cove Point LNG,LP
c/o Mr. Michael Fredericks

Ms. Bette Empol

Mr. & Mrs. Jeremy Empol

Ms. Penny Harris

Dr. Sujay S. Kaushal

Mr. Russell J. Peters

Mr. Jeffery Roberts & Ms. Erin Stevenson

Ms. Theresa Ross & Mr. Vince Ferrara –
Safeway

Ms. Jodi & Messrs Michael &
Dylan Schwartz

Mr. Mark Woodburn

Sustaining Membership

Congratulations to the following members who have reached the level of Sustaining Membership:

Mr. & Mrs. Richard Aldrich

Ms. Anne Cole Johnston

Mr. Donald R. Mighell

Fall Appeal

The Staff and Board of Directors wish to thank the following for their contributions to the 2009 Fall Appeal since the last newsletter:

Mr. Vernon W. Brumbaugh

Ms. Sandra Johnson-Selby

Ms. Jeanne C. Young

Spring Appeal

The Staff and Board of Directors wish to thank the following for their contributions to the recently launched Spring Appeal:

Ms. Kathy Daniel

Mr. and Mrs. Robert A. Jaeger

Memorial Contributions

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

In memory of **Mr. George Mlinaric** who was a Double Oak Hunt Club member and longtime supporter:

The Double Oak Hunt Club

In memory of **Mr. Jefferson B. Feagin, Jr.** who was a longtime member and supporter:

Mr. & Mrs. James Alison & Olivia,
Fontaine, Susan & James

Ms. Olivia Alison

Ms. Grace Deitz

Mr. & Mrs. Frank Feagin

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Shaw

Col. Caroline Van Mason, USA (Ret.)

Ms. Cecil Young

In Honor of Contributions

In honor of **Dr. & Mrs. Edward U. Graham** on the occasion of their marriage.

Ted currently serves as President of the Board of Directors, is a Charter Member and longtime volunteer & supporter:

Mr. & Mrs. Ernest Adams

Ms. Linda Howard

In honor of **Nancy Heers Warner's** birthday. Nancy is a Charter Member and longtime supporter:

Ms. Sylvia B. Warner

General Contributions and Designated Gifts

Thank you to the following for your generous gifts and support:

Through the Environmental Fund for Maryland (Montgomery County Workplace Giving):

Ms. Ann English

Ms. Mary Molesworth

Mr. Richard Brush

Through the Environmental Fund for Maryland (National Capital Area CFC):

Mr. Ronald W. Bailey

Mr. William C. Bartlebaugh

Mr. David L. Brooks

Ms. Jessica A. Brown

Mr. David B. Campbell

Mr. Emmett R. Costich

Mr. Ronald C. Flom

Mr. Matthew Forsbacka

Ms. Prudence J. Goforth

Mr. Robert O. Hardies

Mr. Bruce Hudson

Ms. Elizabeth L. Johnston

Ms. Mollie M. King

Mr. John Kingscott

Mr. Gary A. Loew

Mr. Ronald S. McClain

Mr. Leon W. Myers

Ms. Janette E. Petersen

Mr. Mark E. Sabath

Mr. Velasquez Spring

Mr. Patrick J. Verdin

Special thanks to Mr. & Mrs. Patrick J. Griffin for becoming the first Founding Farmers with their donation in 2009

CSA Founding Farmers:

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Aldrich

Dr. and Mrs. Glenn Edgcombe

Dr. and Mrs. Edward U. Graham

RADM and Mrs. James B. Greene, Jr.

USN (Ret.)

Del. and Mr. Steven Kullen

Mr. and Mrs. John W. Little

Mr. and Mrs. Gary A. Loew

Mr. Mark Smith & Ms. Denise Breitburg

Dr. Elizabeth Tuckermanty

Chaney Enterprises –

Concrete sand for Hance-Chesley

Cemetery repairs

Mr. and Mrs. Conrad L. Hoska –

Land Preservation Fund

IBM Corporation

Ms. Laurie Kauffman

Gift Memberships:

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

Mr. & Mrs. Paul L. Berry

Mr. Jeff Klapper

Dr. Steve M. Peters

Mr. Alan E. Wilson

Matching Gifts:

Thank you to the following members who have made matching contributions:

Mr. & Mrs. Gregory Locraft & Macy's
Foundation

Mr. & Mrs. Richard Moe & The Ford
Foundation



Check us out on Facebook. Become a fan of the [American Chestnut Land Trust](#) today!

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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MD**