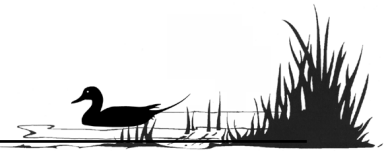


Watershed Observer



Newsletter of the American Chestnut Land Trust
Volume 18 No. 1, Winter 2004

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Calendar Highlights

- March 7 – Calvert Artists Showcase
- March 27 – Volunteer Day
- April 24 – Earth Day

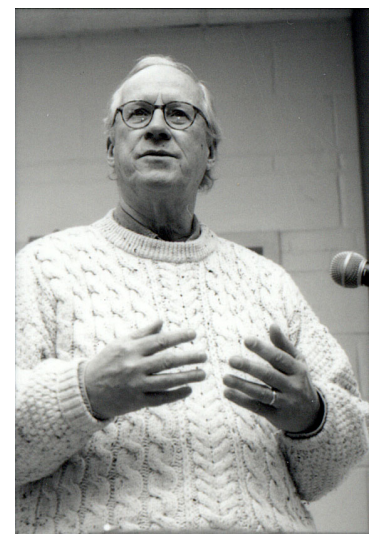
See page 6 for full calendar and additional information.

From the President's Desk ...

The memory of the ACLT annual meeting on January 31 is still fresh. Highlights of the meeting include a thoughtful and challenging keynote talk, focusing on the critical importance of preservation; the election of two new board members and the introduction of two new members of the staff; presentation of the new Five-Year Plan; and recognition of Karen Edgcombe for the tremendous contributions she has made to the ACLT during her three years as president.

The timing of the meeting was propitious as January is always a time of reflection on recent accomplishments and on the prospects for the future. Since the adoption of the last Five-Year Plan in 1998, ACLT's accomplishments have been striking. Since 1998, when the ACLT owned or managed 1,684 acres, 946 acres have been added and the ACLT is now a significant presence in the areas north of Parkers Creek. In addition to the executive director, the staff now includes a full-time land manager and a volunteer coordinator. Many volunteers have helped blaze new trails, build bridges, collect water samples and completed an inventory of the many cultural resources on ACLT land. We have worked with two schools to grow and transplant underwater grasses and we have continued the established events from the Chili Cook Off and Earth Day to the ever-popular canoe trips. We have also continued the tradition of sound fiscal management, including the establishment of a Land Management Endowment.

The meeting itself was excellent. It was well attended, with over 95 members present. Richard Moe, president of the National Trust for Historic Preservation was our keynote speaker. The National Trust is perhaps the nation's premier organization dedicated to preserving the built environment. Mr. Moe reminded us of the continuing loss of both our cultural and natural heritage to rapid development and the critical importance of preserving both. He recommended that, despite economic challenges, land and cultural preservation organizations should form partnerships to work toward common goals.



Keynote speaker Richard Moe, president of the National Trust for Historic Preservation.



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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. To date ACLT, which was founded in 1986, has preserved 814 acres and has accepted management of an additional 1816 acres owned by the State of Maryland and The Nature Conservancy.

Editors: ~~Ellen and David Farr~~

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Seaona Harrison-DeGennaro

Land Manager

Damon Hearne

Volunteer Office Staff

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Coordinator
Paul Berry, Treasurer

At the meeting, two new board members were elected by the membership and two new staff members were introduced. All four bring excellent credentials and experience to the ACLT and will be real assets to the land trust. Damon Hearne was hired in August as the new Land Manager. He grew up on a farm in West Virginia and has a Master's Degree in Natural Resources and Environment from the University of Michigan. Seaona DeGennaro is the newest member of the staff. She is from Calaveras County, California and received a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Biology from Point Loma Nazarene University. Before joining the ACLT staff, she was a teacher in Anne Arundel County.

Our two newest board members are Marcy Damon and Anne Cole Johnston. Marcy studied at Wellesley College and lives in Huntingtown. She works at the Chesapeake Bay Foundation as a Habitat Restoration Trainer. She is no stranger to ACLT, having volunteered in many ways including leading hikes on ACLT trails and helping with planting the underwater grasses. Anne Cole Johnston's ties to Calvert County go back to her childhood. She is currently an Adjunct Instructor at the University of Maryland University College and a Lecturer at the University of Maryland, Office of Continuing and Extended Education. She has also worked as a social worker and was a highly successful entrepreneur. Since moving to Scientists' Cliffs full time, she has become active in a variety of county activities including the Calvert County 350th anniversary celebration.

The new Five-Year Plan is a critically important document. It builds on the success of the last plan and was the product of a daylong board retreat. It is designed to help guide the work of the board, the committees and the staff. It is succinct and is must reading for all those who are committed to the success of the ACLT. It includes goals and specific actions in four areas critical to the ACLT: *Management of ACLT Operations; Land Acquisition and Preservation; Land Management; and Outreach and Membership.*

The actions contained in the plan provide a tremendous variety of opportunities for volunteers to get more involved in the land trust. If you have a talent for fund raising, land or easement acquisition, building repair and restoration, environmental education, creative writing or other capabilities, the ACLT can use your services. I urge the members to take the time to read the plan, come up with an idea or two and talk with a member of the staff or the board on how best to get involved. It can be satisfying and a lot of fun, too.

I can't close this column without recognizing the invaluable contributions of Karen Edgecombe. Much of the ACLT's progress and its heightened profile in the community are attributable to her tireless leadership through three years as the ACLT president. This will be a tough act to follow, but she has been an excellent mentor. I'm optimistic that, with an excellent board, capable committee members, tireless staff and dedicated volunteers, the ACLT has a bright future.

Ted Graham, President

ACLT's 2004 Annual Membership Meeting.

Clockwise from top left:

Outgoing president Karen Edgecombe admires a gavel presented by new president Ted Graham. The gavel, handmade by a local artisan, was made from American Chestnut wood donated by ACLT member, Arnold Petty.



Karen Edgecombe recognizes retiring board members, Ewing Miller and Paul Dennett for their outstanding contributions to ACLT and welcomed new board members, Anne Cole Johnston and Marcy Damon.



Keynote speaker, Richard Moe, president of the National Trust for Historic Preservation addresses the membership on the importance of curbing urban sprawl and preserving both cultural and natural resources.

ACLT to Make e-mail Communication a Key Part of Its Communication Structure

In our changing world where technology is becoming more prevalent, we feel it is time to make electronic communication a key part of our effort to keep our members informed about ACLT events and issues.

We urge those of you who have not supplied us with your e-mail address to do so. Please send your email address to: info@acltweb.org. You may also use a form on ACLT's Web site to register your e-mail address. Look under the 'Participation' link on the home page (<http://acltweb.org>).

You may have noticed that ACLT's e-mail address has changed. The general contact address for ACLT is: info@acltweb.org. Staff members will have separate addresses and these will be listed as needed in the newsletter.

Earth Day 2004

Governors Run, Kenwood Beach, Scientists' Cliffs,
Parkers Creek, and Double Oak/Dares Beach
April 24, 2004

Plans are underway for the 13th annual five-community cleanup and picnic. Dumpsters will be placed at the end of Governors Run Road, in the ACLT parking lot on Scientists Cliff Road, and at a remote location on the northern properties off Dares Beach Road. Directions to special project areas will be announced as we all gather at the ACLT Barn in the parking lot. After the 9 to 12 noon cleanup effort, we will gather at Double Oak Farm for a picnic.

This is always a fun event and we encourage you to bring along the kids, grandchildren, and your neighbors! Water and trash bags will be provided. We need trucks, people-power, and lots of enthusiasm! Anyone wishing to participate in advance planning of special projects, or volunteer your truck, please give Damon Hearne a call at 410-586-1570.

Remember: Picnic - 12:00 noon
ACLT's Double Oak Farm

Around ACLT

Introducing the New Board Members . . .

Two new board members were voted onto the board of directors at the annual membership meeting filling vacancies when Ewing Miller (1994-2003) and Paul Dennett (2000-2003) stepped down. The ACLT is fortunate to have had the benefit of many years of dedication and fine service from Ewing and Paul. Both have given their assurance that they will continue to be quite active in the affairs of the land trust.

Marcy Damon

Marcy has been an ACLT member and volunteer since 1998 and, along with her husband, John Kane, is an avid hiker on our trails. Marcy has volunteered over the years with the Grasses in Classes program finding herself knee-deep in Parkers Creek helping school groups plant submerged aquatic vegetation. A task that most of us would forgo in a heartbeat comes easily to her as a Habitat Restoration Trainer for the Chesapeake Bay Foundation where she also leads workshops on shoreline restoration and Bay-friendly landscaping. Prior to working for the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, Marcy was a naturalist at the Jug Bay Wetlands Sanctuary in Anne Arundel County.

Marcy is a steering committee member of the Conservation Landscaping Council, a member of the Southern Maryland Chapter of the Maryland Native Plant Society, and a mentor with the Big Brothers Big

Sisters of Southern Maryland. She formerly served on the Calvert County Forestry Board and the Maryland Community Forestry Council.

Anne Cole Johnston

Anne, a member of the trust since 1996, has been busy behind the scenes for years with our Outreach Committee and has assisted with the planning of events to encourage memberships from the business community. Anne's family has owned a cabin in Scientists' Cliffs since 1948 and she moved to Calvert County following college to begin her professional career as an English teacher at Calvert Senior High School. She subsequently launched a small store in Baltimore's Harborplace in 1980. This one store soon expanded to additional locations in twelve states. She sold her business in 1996 and returned to Calvert County.

Anne is currently an Adjunct Instructor of business and management courses at the University of Maryland University College and a Lecturer at the University of Maryland, Office of Continuing and Extended Education. She is a member of the American Society for Training and Development, the Maryland Association of Nonprofit Organizations, the National Contract Management Association, and The National Council of Teachers of English.

rectors in 2004 is new President **Edward U. (Ted) Graham**. Ted was elected President of the ACLT Board of Directors in January when Karen Edgecombe stepped down after three years.

Ted comes to us with tremendous leadership abilities, an engineering background, and is a respected participant in Chesapeake Bay-related protection programs, including chairman of one of Maryland's Chesapeake Bay Tributary Strategy Teams. Ted is currently the Water Resources Program Director for the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments. He also chairs the Bay Program's Land, Growth and Stewardship Subcommittee and is a member of the Bay Program's Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee. He is a charter member of the trust and has been on our board of directors for five years. Ted has served as Chairman of the Outreach and Membership Committee, as a member of the Land Management Committee, and directs our Water Quality Monitoring program. Our board and staff are confident that Ted will provide the leadership that broadens our community involvement while continuing our sound fiscal management, outstanding land stewardship, and the ongoing preservation of lands in the Parkers Creek and Governors Run watersheds.

Peg Niland
Executive Director

Presiding over our Board of Di-

Volunteer Day—March 27, 2004

We are looking for you! Volunteers are the heart and soul of ACLT. If you are looking for a place that needs and appreciates your time and effort, we offer a wide range of volunteer opportunities. We are planning a special volunteer day with a dual purpose. First, we will be working on specific projects around ACLT properties—a bit of spring-cleaning! This year we will be focusing on erosion control and trail maintenance on the north side trails of Double Oak Farm. With that done, we'll adjourn for lunch and provide a chance for volunteers to meet with various ACLT representatives and get more information about the full range of volunteer activities.

Typically, we're looking for help throughout the year with trail maintenance, water quality monitoring, canoe trips on Parkers Creek, Earth Day, Chili Cook-Off and Auction, restoration and repair to our cemeteries, fundraisers, family programs, event planning and office assistance with special mailings, and much more. If you would like to hear more about our volunteer opportunities, please join us at the **ACLT Volunteer Day, Saturday, March 27, 2004** at Double Oak Farm in Prince Frederick.

For more information, please contact Seaona DeGennaro, Volunteer Coordinator, at 410-586-1570 or info@actweb.org. Reservations are appreciated. We look forward to seeing you there!



Record Your Volunteer Hours

Volunteers are the heart of the American Chestnut Land Trust and, without you, we could never hope to accomplish all that we do. Whether you are a long-time devoted volunteer or just starting out with us at Volunteer Day, it is important to us to know how many hours you spend on ACLT projects.

Total volunteer hours are used when applying for grants and reporting on special projects. Those volunteer hours include your travel time as well as the time you actually spend working at an event or attending a committee meeting.

To make sure that we keep accurate records, the best way to send your volunteer hours is by e-mail to info@actweb.org, but you can always drop a note with name, date of the activity and hours worked to ACLT at Post Office Box 204, Port Republic, MD 20676, or call *Seaona DeGennaro* at 410-586-1570. Another way is to log into the ACLT website at <http://actweb.org> and follow the bold link on the left labeled "Participation." Whatever method you choose, we would encourage you to keep track of those hours and send them in to us!

ACLT is grateful for the continuing support of all our volunteers. Your time and dedication are truly appreciated.

Seaona DeGennaro, Volunteer Coordinator

ACLT's New Staff Member

Seaona DeGennaro, Introduces Herself . . .

I am a native Californian and grew up in a small town called Murphys in the foothills of the Sierra Nevada's. Sunny San Diego is where I did my undergraduate work in biology at Point Loma Nazarene University. After graduation I had the opportunity to do research in the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at The Pennsylvania State University while my husband, Mike, did his graduate work. Next was the move to Maryland where I taught sixth grade science in Anne Arundel County. Five months ago we purchased an old farmhouse in the outskirts of Prince Frederick that we adoringly are restoring.

My position at ACLT is Assistant to the Executive Director and Volunteer Coordinator. This translates into "Woman with many hats"; performing the day to day office transactions, assisting both Peg and Damon with various projects, and best of all, inspiring people to get involved with ACLT. This last part entails educating the public in a variety of forums as to who ACLT is and what we do, providing exciting opportunities for volunteers to get involved in our organization and planning a variety of events for ACLT supporters to enjoy.

I feel very fortunate to be a part of an organization such as this one because of my passion for preserving green space and the places of our past. Furthermore I feel quite privileged to be working with people who share this passion.

ACLT Calendar of Events — 2004

March 7 - Calvert Artist's Showcase (CAS) - Variety show highlighting Calvert County talent for the benefit of local nonprofit organizations. Tickets for the event are \$15 or \$10 for those 55 and older. Tickets are available for sale at the ACLT office (410-586-1570).

March 27 – Volunteer Work Day - Become part of the ACLT volunteer team! This year we will primarily be doing erosion control and trail maintenance on the north side trails at Double Oak Farm.

April 17 - 350th Calvert County Anniversary Parade - ACLT would like to design, build and decorate a float for the parade. If you are interested in helping with any aspect of this project call Seona DeGennaro at 410-586-1570.

April 24 – 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. You will be rewarded with a picnic at the end of the day's activities. Come join us!

September 11 – Chili Cook Off and Auction - Enter your best chili recipe, bid at the auction, catch up with other ACLT members and enjoy the day!

October 9 – Harvest Day/Volunteer Work Day - We will harvest pumpkins, gourds and sunflowers in the field across from the ACLT office while drinking apple cider and enjoying the ACLT trails. Bring your family as we usher in the fall season.

October 28-31 – Land Trust Alliance Rally in Providence, Rhode Island.

December 11 – Greens Sale and Hayride. Greens for decorating at the holidays, hot cider, and a hayride to the beach.

Canoe Trips*: April 25, May 16, June 19, July 18, September 19 and October 24.

*Depart from Warrior's Rest and enjoy a scenic tour of Parkers Creek. **Reservations are required.** Please call the ACLT office at 410-586-1570 or e-mail us at info@acltweb.org to register. Canoe trips are physically strenuous, requiring paddling for three hours (frequently against wind and tides), and may require participants to help carry a canoe for up to one-quarter mile over sand to access the Creek.

Note: Event dates may change. Check our website at acltweb.org and future newsletters or call the office to confirm times and locations.



Notes from the Executive Director

Strategic Plan — Preparing for the Future

Over a nearly yearlong process, the board of directors has adopted a new Strategic Plan to guide our organization over the next five years. In the process, committees did a thorough self-evaluation of the goals set out in the past five-year plan and looked carefully at where we are today. A new mission statement emerged and we established goals and the strategies and actions to achieve those goals through the year 2008. Looking beyond the next five years, we envisioned what both ACLT and Calvert County would be like in the year 2015. An overview follows.

Highlights from the Introduction

“We accomplished a great deal during the period of our past five-year plan: expanding our full-time staff to three, continuing our sound fiscal management, growing our membership, assuming substantially increased land management responsibilities and providing a long-term funding source to accomplish them, and significantly increasing preserved lands in the Parkers Creek watershed. We are grateful to our membership for their continued outstanding support of our efforts. Many of our greatest strides during the past five years were due, in large measure, to the assistance of The Nature Conservancy, The Maryland Department of Natural Resources, and the foundations that have believed in us and supported us throughout this period. We are

also deeply indebted to The Land Trust Alliance and The Maryland Environmental Trust for the steadfast guidance they have offered over the years.”

“As we look to the future, we hope that in five years ACLT will continue to serve as a shining example of community-based conservation. Our focus will gradually turn outward as we look to build and maintain cooperative partnerships with other nonprofit organizations, governmental entities, businesses, and a broader segment of the Calvert County community to bring about greater environmental awareness, stewardship and community service.”

Karen H. Edgecombe (2003)
President, ACLT

Mission Statement

We promote the value of land conservation throughout Calvert County, Maryland. We promote sustainable public use of preserved properties for educational, scientific, recreational and cultural purposes. We are stewards of the watersheds of Parkers Creek and Governors Run, protecting the natural and cultural heritage of these lands and waterways for the benefit of this and future generations.

Vision for ACLT in 2015

ACLT is a national model for a community-based conservation organization. Robust and financially secure, we share our land preserva-

tion and management expertise with others to build a preservation ethic. We are attentive stewards for the watersheds, serving as a catalyst for effective land preservation throughout Calvert County by means of alliances and partnerships with other nonprofit organizations, governmental entities, businesses, and a broad segment of the Calvert County community.

Vision for Calvert County in 2015

Calvert County is a national model for environmental stewardship balanced with a healthy economy. Our landscape continues to be characterized by forests, fields and farms and well-planned and diverse communities, surrounded by a healthy river and bay. Our citizens are educated and active stewards of the land and their daily living is enhanced by the abundance of natural areas.

Management of ACLT Operations

Goal: To retain an effective and efficient operation, guided by the Standards and Practices set by the Land Trust Alliance, with adequate operating and capital funding resources, to carry out the mission and achieve the vision of the ACLT.

Land Acquisition and Preservation

Goal: To preserve land, according to our mission, in Calvert County through purchase, environmental easements, and cooperative contracts.

Land Management

Goal: By the end of the year 2008, the ACLT will be actively managing all the lands and waters for which we are responsible in a manner by which their natural and cultural resources are preserved, sustained, and enhanced.

Outreach and Membership

Goal: By the end of the year 2008, we will expand the individual and corporate membership of the ACLT to include a broader sector of the Calvert County community; and through events, publications and public appearances, we will be recognized as a major source of information about environmental quality, protection of cultural resources and the value of land conservation in Calvert County.

I join Ted Graham in encouraging you to learn more about the strategies and actions outlined in the plan to achieve these goals. Anyone wishing a copy of the complete plan can call the ACLT office (410-586-1570) or read it on our website at acltweb.org.

Peg Niland, Executive Director

Correction

A picture of a volunteer at the Warrior's Rest Isabel Cleanup was misidentified as Dave Bohaska. While Dave was indeed working hard, it was Sherman Sutter pictured with debris in both hands.

ACLT Receives Over \$94,000 in Foundation Support in 2003

While the financial support of our membership has always been, and always needs to be, the strength of our organization, we have been very fortunate to have the backing of foundations since 1991. Our first grant in the amount of \$17,000 came from the MARPAT Foundation for my salary as a part-time employee. Over the years we have received help from groups as diverse as the World Wildlife Fund, the Federal Coastal Zone Management (NOAA), and Baltimore Gas & Electric Company.

Over time, we have cultivated relationships with several foundations that we hope will provide approximately one-third of the revenue required to meet our operating budget each year. In 2003 we exceeded even that goal. These foundations recognize the determination of our board and staff to fulfill our mission, the incredible generosity of our members, the support of the business community, our diligent business management in the establishment of an endowment fund, the dedication of our volunteers, and the soundness of our mission. We thank the following for their dedicated support of our efforts:

- Spring Creek Foundation – 2003: \$30,000 (total to date: \$130,000)
- First Bank Trust – 2003: \$45,000 (total to date: \$270,000)
- The MARPAT Foundation – 2003: \$7,500 (total to date: \$78,500)
- Cavanaugh Charitable Foundation – New in 2003, committed to \$10,000 a year for five years.
- The Chesapeake Bay Trust – 2003: \$2,000 (total to date: \$16,725)
- Additionally, we thank The Nature Conservancy for donating \$10,000 a year toward land management.

The Chronicle of Philanthropy reports that foundation assets eroded for the third consecutive year, and that the majority of foundations in its annual survey planned to freeze or reduce their grant making in 2003. Foundation support has also become more and more competitive. Many non-profits nationwide had to close their doors over the past two years because they depended too heavily on foundation grants or government support, did not have either creative or long-term financial planning, and could not show the support from their membership that ACLT enjoys.

Our program committees, with oversight of the board of directors, have worked hard to build and cultivate our individual donor base, diversify our funding sources, build partnerships with other organizations, and stay focused on our mission and core programs that achieve that mission. The administration of our organization recognizes the support of foundations and our dedicated members during the past economic slump as a huge vote of confidence—a confidence we promise to work hard to maintain.

Peg Niland, Executive Director

Land Manager's Corner

Easements and the Process of Land Monitoring

In the modern world of expensive land deals and sprawling cities, there are very few 'permanent' land uses. In the past 100 years we have witnessed the progression of land use from agricultural to forest and from forest to built development. Over the course of the next 100 years, radical changes will occur across most of our landscape. There are only a few types of land that will not change—and one of those types is land under conservation easement.

As a conservation organization, ACLT owns 800+ acres of land and manages several thousand acres that are owned by The Nature Conservancy and the state of Maryland. However, simple ownership and intent to conserve does not protect these lands forever. As a legally binding and permanent protection, conservation easements add a level of protection that intent cannot achieve.

Conservation easements are a method of land protection that allows the owner to retain ownership of a property. In lieu of selling the property to a conservation organization, they sell or donate some or all of the development potential of the property. The landowner gets a tax break (and often peace of mind) and the holder of the easement progresses in its mission to conserve land. The two parties are then engaged in a perpetual relationship.

Indeed, ACLT can be on the 'owner' side of this relationship with our own lands. ACLT has do-

nated conservation easements to a statewide agency. The contractual agreement is worded in a way that prevents either party from ever developing or altering the land in a way that is contrary to the conservation easement documents.

Additionally, ACLT is on the 'holder' side of the relationship with several landowners in the watershed (totaling 384 acres). Those owners sold or donated easements to ACLT and are bound to their contracts. In turn, ACLT is bound to monitor those properties and assure that there are no breaches of the conservation easement contract. In theory, this relationship lasts in perpetuity.

The monitoring relationship begins with the collection of data. Because the land trust is ultimately responsible for the conservation of the property, it must obtain a baseline of information that will allow it to observe change (or hopefully, lack of change). The fact that this is a perpetual relationship means that every effort must be taken to assure that the information is complete, accurate and robust. Baseline data includes a detailed description and photos of the property including type, size and placement of structures, roads and other manmade features. It can also include vegetation, soil, and water data.

Each designated monitoring year an assessment is made comparing the current state of the land to the baseline data. The ability to enforce the easement can depend

on the quality of the baseline and monitoring data. The adage "good fences make good neighbors" can be applied to this relationship: "good information makes good easements."

Unfortunately, the monitoring process can become cumbersome as years go by. The wealth of data that is required for a good conservation easement can be overwhelming for a small organization. However, there are several tools that a monitoring organization can use to streamline the process. The Land Trust Alliance (LTA.org) recently developed a software package that can manage all aspects of the conservation easement. Tying together contact names and addresses, legal documents, maps, diagrams and photos in a digital format allows the easement holder to have ready access to data that would otherwise be buried in folders and difficult to organize.

Digital photography, web-available and self-made aerial photography and Geographic Information Systems (GIS) can further streamline the process. For example, the Maryland Environmental Trust monitors over 100,000 acres of easements. Their easement monitoring team uses aerial photography coupled with Global Positioning Systems to monitor multiple properties in a single low-level flight. On the ground, map based photo points are established to provide a virtual 'anchor' for chronological photo documentation. Comparing photos taken from the same spot year to year can help staff locate problems with the easement.

But there remains an im-

portant part of this process and that is the personal relationship between the owners and the easement holders. Digital technology cannot replace the value of personal contact between the two parties. On site contact can help avoid potential violations by keeping both parties aware of guidelines, restrictions and changes.

The easement processes is still young. Current owners of easement land are likely the ones that put the land into conservation and most monitoring organizations still retain staff that worked on the initial agreement. Time, however, will test the process as turnover places new owners in the relationship and organizations rely on good data to tell what the property looked like back in the early part of the 2000's.

Damon Hearne, Land Manager

Calvert Artists Showcase

The Calvert Artists Showcase (CAS) is an exciting variety show that highlights local talent for our community to enjoy. The range of performances runs the gamut from the rhythm and blues of *Blues X Two* and the folk inspired music of *Rock Fish with Bill Marquess* to the classical woodwind trio of *La Canzone di Vento*. This is an incredible show that shouldn't be missed!

Each of the eight acts has agreed to share talents on stage at the Mary Harrison Center beginning at 2:00 p.m. Sunday, March 7, 2004. Each performer, in turn, has chosen a Calvert County-based non-profit group to receive a percentage of the net proceeds. One of the participating performers, *Rock Fish with Bill Marquess*, selected the American Chestnut Land Trust as their "chosen" non-profit to benefit from their participation.

Tickets for the event are \$15.00 or \$10.00 for those over 55. Tickets are available for sale at the ACLT office as well as at the door. Please call the office at 410-586-1570 for further information or to purchase tickets. We hope to see you at the show!

Barn Rescue

ACLT volunteers and staff recently worked to rescue salvageable lumber from a historic barn on the corner of Stoakley Road and Rt. 2/4. ACLT learned that the barn was scheduled to be demolished to make room for a new development and took action to save wood that could be used to restore our own barns. With cooperation from the developer, Marrick Properties, and enthusiasm from our volunteers, we were able to save significant amounts of siding and structural timbers over the course of three intense workdays. We thank the volunteers that helped!

Clockwise from top left: Barn before ACLT rescue efforts; barn after siding was removed; barn after controlled collapse; volunteer Pat Murphy hauling rescued lumber; volunteer Skip Ford pulling nails. Other barn rescue volunteers were Ken Romney, Arnold Petty, Ginny Murphy and Paul Blayney.



Thank you for your support ...

New Members

ACLT would like to welcome the following new members who have joined since the Fall 2003 Newsletter:

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Aldrich
Ms. Marty Davis-Daniels
Mr. and Mrs. Michael DeGennaro
Mr. and Mrs. Ellis Knox
Mr. and Mrs. Paul McManimon
Ms. Mary Parrish
Results Fitness, LLC (corporate)
Mr. and Mrs. Steve Schindel

Memorials

The following have made contributions to ACLT in memory of Ms. Susan Slaughter, sister of Ralph Dwan and Ursula Jaeger, who was a charter member and longtime supporter of ACLT:

Mr. & Mrs. Stanley O. Benning
Dr. Christina & Col. Daniel Boesz
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Farman
RADM James B. Greene, USN (ret.)
Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Head
Mr. & Mrs. James P. Kennelly
Mr. & Mrs. John P. McGahey
Ms. Mary McGahey and
Mr. Todd Sheldon
Capt. and Mrs. Patrick Murphy, USN (ret.)
Ms. Margaret Niland
Dr. Steve Peters
Col. Caroline Van Mason USA (ret.)
Mr. and Mrs. Peter Vogt (designated for Land Acquisition Fund)
Mr. Alan Wilson

The following have made contributions to ACLT in memory of Mrs. Frances Hughes, wife of Phillip Hughes, a charter member and longtime supporter of ACLT:

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Berry
Mr. and Mrs. Allan Loew
Ms. Annie Moore
Ms. Margaret Niland

Mr. and Mrs. Peter Stathis made a contribution in the memory of Ms. Joyce McDonald.

Dr. Marie Bundy has made contributions in

memory of:

Mrs. Margaret Peters, mother of Dr. Steve Peters
Mrs. Cel Clark, mother of Dr. Christine Boesz
Mr. Fred Boesz, father of Col. Dan Boesz

General Contributions and Designated Gifts

General Donations

Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Ellis have made a donation to Warrior's Rest. (Mrs. Ellis is Dr. Jett's granddaughter.)
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Farman
Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Petty
Ms. Valerie Redden

Mr. Ewing Miller for a donated 1989 Range Rover

Contribution for Land Acquisition

Mr. and Mrs. David Farr
Marcellas Farms, LLC
Mr. and Mrs. Peter Vogt

Gift Memberships

Thank you to the following members who purchased gift memberships since the Fall 2003 newsletter:
Ms. Martha Horton
Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Dyer
Ms. Ethel Dutky

Fall Appeal

ACLT wishes to thank the following members who made a contribution to the Fall Appeal campaign (since reported in the Fall 2003 newsletter):

Ms. Mary Atwood
Ms. Joy Bartholomew and
Dr. William Haile
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Berry
Mr. Vernon Brumbaugh
Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Cochran
Ms. Helen Dewar
Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Ellsworth
Ms. Millicent Gay
Dr. Edward U. Graham
RADM James B. Greene, USN (ret.)
Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Griffin
Mr. and Mrs. GianCarlo Guardia
Ms. Ardith Horne
Mr. Conrad Hoska
Mr. and Mrs. William Johnston
Mr. Steve Kullen
Ms. Elaine Loomis
Ms. Susanna McBee
Mr. John McNeely
Mr. Mark Michelini
Mr. Denny Murray
Ms. Mary Parrish & Mr. Sherman Suter
Mr. Dominic Rains
Mr. and Mrs. David Redden
Mr. Dan Sampson
Dr. Nancy McK. Smith
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Steller
Mr. and Mrs. Louis Tacchetti
Mr. and Mrs. John Theriault
Mr. Joseph Turner and Ms. Leslie Starr
Mr. Wilmer Waller
Mr. and Mrs. Jon Warner
Ms. Anne Zehner



Come Join Us!

Detach and Mail to: The American Chestnut Land Trust, Inc., P.O. Box 204, Port Republic, MD 20676

Name _____

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 204, Port Republic, MD 20676 or call (410) 586-1570. 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 204
Port Republic, MD 20676**

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