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## COMING UP ON THE CALENDAR

### FEBRUARY

13 — HIKE GUIDE TRAINING (6:30 – 8:30PM)

17 SUN — WINTER HIKE AT DOUBLE OAK (1:00PM – 3:30PM)

### MARCH

2 SAT — ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING & LUNCHEON (9:30AM – 12:30PM)

13 WED. — 2019 GUIDED CANOE TRIP CALENDAR RELEASED. REGISTRATION OPENS.

SEE MORE OF THE 2018 CALENDAR ON PAGE 10 OR ONLINE AT [HTTP://ACLTWEB.ORG](http://acltweb.org).

## Calvert Residents Care About the Environment - Should They Be Worried?



Smart Growth Maryland commissioned a poll, conducted by OpinionWorks and released on October 30<sup>th</sup>, which confirms resident support for the environment. According to the poll, **87%** of county registered voters support protecting waterways like the Chesapeake Bay, Patuxent River, and local creeks. Also, **79%** support protecting most agricultural land from development. The residents believe that these issues need to be priorities in the new county Comprehensive Plan.

In addition to their affection for waterways and rural lands, residents appear to have a strong appreciation for Calvert County with **92%** saying that Calvert is a good or excellent place to live.

There are many Calvert County statistics that support this notion of a high quality of life, such as:

- Calvert has the lowest number of reported violent crime offenses for a Maryland county per 100,000 population in 2018 accord to the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.<sup>1</sup>
- Calvert is tied for 2<sup>nd</sup> lowest rate of children under 18 in poverty in 2018 (7%) (Robert Wood Johnson Foundation).
- Its public school system is ranked 3<sup>rd</sup> in academic achievement. (BackgroundChecks.org), 3<sup>rd</sup> in test scores (schooldigger.com) and 6<sup>th</sup> considering multiple factors (Niche.com).<sup>2</sup>
- It has the 4<sup>th</sup> best overall rank in county health outcomes (Robert Wood Johnson Foundation).<sup>3</sup>
- It has the 4<sup>th</sup> highest county per capita income in Maryland (Wikipedia).
- It has the 8<sup>th</sup> lowest property tax rate (note that all but one of the seven with lower tax rates are rural counties.) (Maryland Association of Counties (MACO))<sup>4</sup>.
- It has the 9<sup>th</sup> highest percentage per capita of assessed value of real and personal property (MACO).

However, despite these many quality of life factors, those who participated in the poll did have concerns. They indicated that the **single most important issue or challenge facing Calvert County** is overdevelopment/ growth/ sprawl. According to the poll, **65%** say that we should discourage residential development and **69%** say

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 5)

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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 3,200 acres. We own 1390 acres, manage 1,819 acres owned by the State of Maryland, and hold conservation easements on 374 privately-owned acres.

Editors: Ellen and David Farr

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# From the President's Desk

*I think fearless is having fears but jumping anyway.*

Taylor Swift

Dear Friends,

You may not have noticed but I have had the good fortune to serve as an ACLT Board member since 2000 and its President since 2008. However, in this bittersweet moment I am writing to tell you that I am stepping down, both as President and as a Board member. I am so grateful to my Board colleagues and to the ACLT staff and membership for the opportunity to have been part of the important work of ACLT in such a fun and interesting way.

Serious respect and love for nature and the environment did not come until much later in life for me. As a boy, my physical environment was paved over with asphalt and concrete. The parks in my neighborhood had handball courts, slides, and monkey bars, but no dirt. Our postage-sized backyard had a grape arbor that actually produced enough grapes for a little homemade wine. We also had a few tomato and basil plants along with a prodigious fig tree. It created a warm and inviting place for my extended family to gather outside as close to nature as we could be. However, living where we did, helped develop an appreciation of nature that extended a bit beyond my backyard. This was evident in my love of being on the NYC beaches of Rockaway and Coney Island daily during the summer. Just sight of the water comforted me while also providing wonderful times to enjoy the surf.

Unfortunately, my early professional life in Washington didn't do much to expand my understanding of the environment. My perspective was influenced by a very powerful senator for whom I worked. His name was Robert C. Byrd from West Virginia. He never saw a mountain he didn't want to flatten or a holler he didn't want to pave. At the time, it didn't seem like a crazy position, in that his efforts were all designed to keep the hard-scrabbled folks of Appalachia working in mines and able to drive to them. Unfortunately, it framed the somewhat false dichotomy that still exists today between the need to create or protect jobs and protecting mother earth.

When Abbey and I moved to Scientists Cliffs around 1987, it didn't immediately produce any environmental epiphanies either. However, shortly thereafter, meeting Carolyn Van Mason did! Carolyn was our neighbor. One day she knocked on my door, and invited herself in. Avoiding the small talk, she insisted that Abbey and I join the recently created ACLT right then and there. I was afraid to say no, so we signed up and gave her a check of \$30 and have been members ever since.

While it didn't happen in that moment, the decision fundamentally changed my life. It launched a path of exploration about the sanctity and science of the environment. Over the next twenty years my curiosity and appreciation of our ecosystem continued to unfold. The process revealed the inescapable questions of how our actions, globally and locally, determine the quality of our environment not only for us but for our children and grandchildren. Dramatically reinforced recently, by studies that reveal that if appro-

priate actions aren't taken, we are threatening, if not our, then their very existence.

ACLT came to appear to me as a microcosm of the entire conversation about what is precious about the environment in our everyday lives as well what is necessary to protect the entire planet. It also stood right in the middle of the debate as a potential hinderance to economic growth and jobs. This tension is as palpable right here in Calvert county as it is throughout the country. Many of our political leaders locally and beyond are willing to dismiss the science and ignore the threat our behavior is to the environment in pursuit of financial gain.

There is an aspect of this argument that is not without some merit. However, when grossly manipulated for the benefit of a few, I sincerely believe we must be fearless in our opposition. It is as Miss Swift says and suggests, there are times we may not be able to allay all our fears or doubts but we must act nevertheless.

Though I don't have any special knowledge, after being in politics for the last forty or so years as a Democrat, folks occasionally ask me what they should do to respond to the current political environment as it relates to any number of issues. I respond by saying what you do is less important than how passionate and convinced you are that your actions are necessary. I am not suggesting that we act recklessly, but I am urging we reflect deeply about what is at stake, particularly for the environment, and act as if we have no fear.

My farewell wish for ACLT is that it remains true to its core mission of preserving as much land as possible in the Parkers Creek and Governors Run watersheds. However, I hope it is also fearless in the leadership it provides throughout the county to encourage support for its important work and to defend against policy threats designed to undermine it. My political experience has taught me many things. One of the most important lessons that I have attempted to bring to my responsibilities at ACLT is that there is always an outside game. By this I mean that especially in a hostile environment, good facts alone, without the courage to promote and or protect them, rarely prevail.



Pat Griffin, President 2008-2018  
ACLT Board of Directors

## Around ACLT

### Forest Diversity Survey: Understanding How Land-Use Affects Forest Composition

Over the past year, ACLT staff and volunteers have been working on a science initiative to establish a watershed-wide baseline of diversity in the Parkers Creek Preserve. Diversity assessments in this initial baseline include tree, fish, amphibian, reptile, insect, and bird species. Under the guidance of ACLT's Science Committee, former Assistant Land Manager, Michael Molina, piloted the first baseline assessment, the Forest Diversity Survey, in fall of 2017. The goal of the Forest Diversity Survey is to document forest species diversity on 40 permanent 1/4<sup>th</sup> acre plots located throughout the preserve. After considering factors such as topography, land-use, and soil types, plots are chosen to include a variety of ecological features to obtain the most representative sample of the forests in the Parkers Creek and Governors Run watersheds. Once determined, plot boundaries are permanently marked with rebar and trees



Figure 1.1 2018 Forest Diversity Survey Plots. The green outline is the Russell/Commodore property boundary, the orange outline is the Gravatt West property boundary, and the red outline is the Gravatt East property boundary.

Thank you!  
Pat Griffin

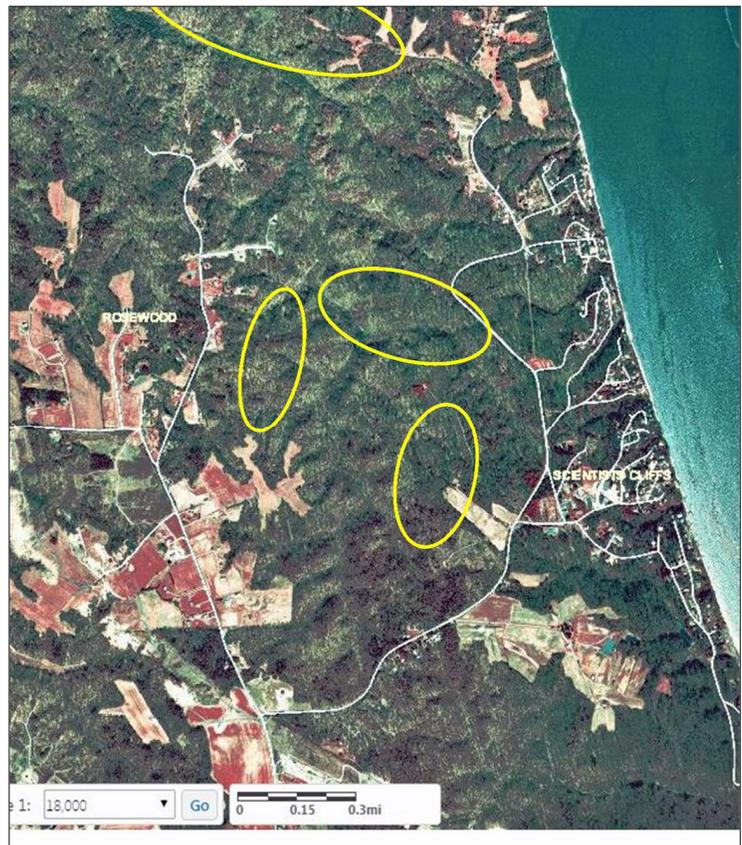
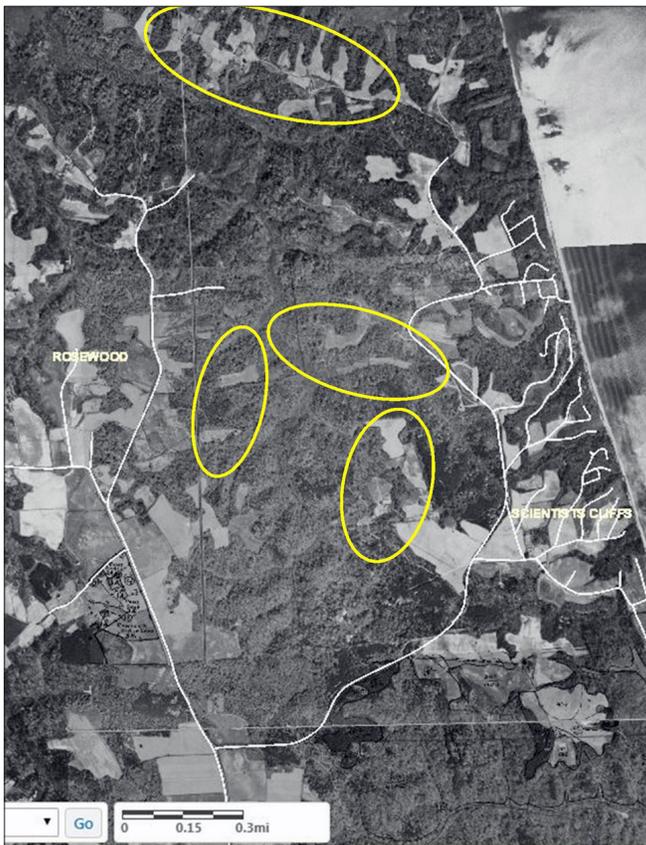
within each plot are given unique identification tags. For all first year plot measurements, parameters include diameter at breast height (DBH), species identification, and physiological/structural conditions for woody plants larger than 1 inch DBH. The long-term goal of this study is to conduct a Continued Forest Inventory (CFI) and remeasure the DBH of every identified tree in each plot every 5-10 years and include ancillary data such as tree height, age classes, biomass, annual carbon sequestration, understory vegetation abundances, soil textural and chemical analysis, and arthropod/mammalian browsing impacts. By undertaking this CFI, ACLT can monitor and understand the effects of climate change and anthropogenic stressors on its forested properties. Information gathered from this study will guide land management actions to continue protecting our preserved properties and target areas of greatest concern.

During spring and fall of 2018, twelve plots spanning three properties on the south side of Parkers Creek, (Gravatt East, Gravatt West, and Russell) have been marked, inventoried, and measured (see Figure 1.1). Studies such as this one are important for understanding how land-use changes affect forest composition and diversity, specifically species richness and evenness. Preliminary assessments of the twelve plots surveyed last year provide

an opportunity to analyze plots that were clear-cut for agricultural or timber harvest purposes versus those that have remained forested over a span of almost 100 years. Aerial photos of Calvert County (see Figures 1.2 and 1.3) that are available to the public through the Calvert County GIS services (<http://www.co.cal.md.us/index.aspx?NID=1537>) show how the landscapes of our south side properties have changed over time. Aerial photos from 1938 and 1957 indicate that three of the twelve plots, GWP3, GWP5, and GWP6, were void of trees during these years. The 1997 aerial photo shows that by that time, all three of the plots were either established forests or in the early successional stages of forest regeneration.

Completing the first stages of the Forestry Diversity Survey required significant staff and volunteer time and ACLT thanks Baltimore Gas and Electric (BG&E) and Cove Point Natural Heritage Trust for funding this stage of the project. ACLT also thanks all of the volunteers who dedicated their time and effort to identify and tag all of the trees in the 12 plots that have been sampled to date. Stay tuned for results from preliminary assessments of relative abundances, diversity indices, and more that will be found in the upcoming spring 2019 newsletter.

Taylor Roswall  
ACLT Stewardship Coordinator



Left: Figure 1.2 Aerial photo of the south side of Parkers Creek in 1938.

Right: Figure 1.3 Aerial photo of the south side of Parkers Creek in 1997.

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

that Calvert needs to remain a smaller community and protect its rural character. Residents also see the connection between residential growth and traffic and 51% see traffic as a major problem. The full OpinionWorks report can be viewed at this web address: <https://bit.ly/zSjCrSp>.

All of this leaves the new Board of County Commissioners, who will be taking office on December 18<sup>th</sup>, with some major challenges. However, the results of the Sustainable Calvert Network (SCN) Candidate Questionnaire and Candidates Forum in October provide some reason for hope for those who care about Calvert's rural lands, rural economies, and quality town center development which is needed to help prevent residential sprawl. Four of the five Commissioner candidates who prevailed in the general election participated in the Candidates Questionnaire. In that questionnaire:

- All four supported the goals of preserving the rural landscape and creating town centers that are great places to live, work, and shop (note: one of the five chose not to participate in the questionnaire).
- All four supported the notion of preserving 40,000 acres of prime farm and forest land.
- All four said that agritourism, ecotourism, heritage tourism, farming, fishing, and forestry are a preferred alternative to residential sprawl outside town centers.
- All four thought that effective architectural review standards for buildings and signs are important, as are sidewalks, streetlights, public parks, public buildings, and gathering places.

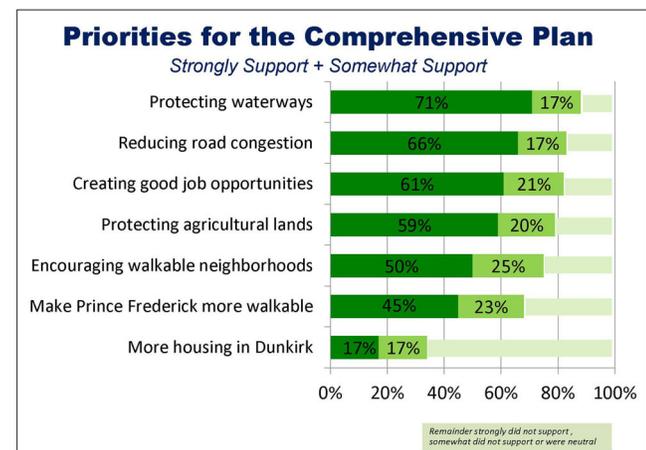
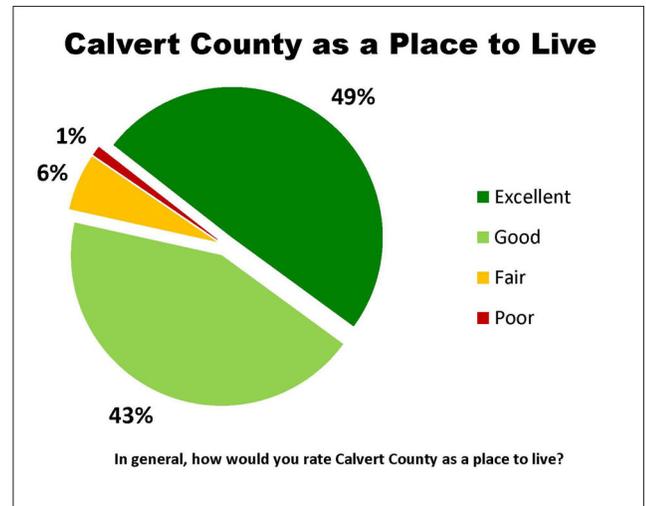
You can read the answers to the candidate questionnaires at: [www.sustainablecalvertnetwork.com](http://www.sustainablecalvertnetwork.com). The Forum was well attended and candidates were asked their positions on land preservation and funding, rural economies, water quality, zoning to protect rural lands, traffic and growth.

On the other hand, at its November meeting, the Planning Commission voted to recommend a draft of the Comprehensive Plan that falls far short on these and other issues. Just to name a few:

- The Plan's authors removed a whole section on water quality, even cutting water quality standards without comment or justification.
- The recommended Plan calls for preserving 40,000 acres of prime farm and forest land, but it fails to identify any new initiatives to reach the land preservation goal.
- The recommended Plan reduces the need for transferable development rights in town centers.
- The recommended Plan eliminates the provisions in the current Plan for controlling residential growth.
- The recommended Plan removes the provision in the current Plan that says "Continue to support the land preservation efforts of local, state, and national land trusts."
- The recommended Plan removes the provision in the current Plan that says "Continue to work with the County's land trusts

to identify and preserve farms that are critical to the protection of lands in Priority Preservation Areas."

All of these issues and more appear to put the new recommended Comprehensive Plan out of sync with the desires of County voters as per the OpinionWorks poll. Let's hope that the new Board of County Commissioners take a fresh look at the Plan when it is submitted to them early next year.



#### References

- <sup>1</sup>(Robert Wood Johnson Foundation report- County Health Rankings and Roadmap) <http://www.countyhealthrankings.org/app/maryland/2018/measure/factors/43/map>
- <sup>2</sup><https://backgroundchecks.org/top-school-districts-in-maryland-2018.html>; <https://www.schooldigger.com/go/MD/districtrank.aspx>; <https://patch.com/maryland/columbia/marylands-best-school-districts-new-rankings-released>
- <sup>3</sup><http://www.countyhealthrankings.org/app/maryland/2018/rankings/outcomes/overall> <https://www.mdcounties.org/138/MACos-County-Budget-Tax-Rate-Survey>

# Fall Hiking Trail Maintenance Day

For this year's Fall Hiking Trail Maintenance Day, volunteers and staff took on the mighty task of moving a 24' bridge and a 12' bridge in the middle of the PF2BAY trail, as well as building almost 100' of boardwalk and "side-ledging" a new re-route back to the existing trail on either side of the moved bridges. The existing 24' bridge experienced so much erosion on one of its banks that the footers of concrete that supported the bridge eroded away, leaving one end of the bridge suspended in mid-air (photo 1).

After several days were spent prepping and staging the materials in the woods, 40 volunteers attended Hiking Trail Maintenance Day on November 10th to get the project underway. To begin, one group started disassembling the 24' bridge (photo 2) while a second group started disassembling the 12' bridge. These two bridges were moved approximately 200' upstream where the stream banks were more stable and less incised. Photo 3 shows 9 volunteers carrying the bridge frame of 24' 2"x12" lumber through the woods and photo 4 shows the bridge frame in its new location. The smaller 12' bridge was also moved to a new location and reassembled, spanning a smaller tributary stream just 40' from the larger stream spanned by the 24' bridge (photo 5).

Simultaneously a third crew started building a boardwalk across the lowland area spanning the distance between the sites where the two bridges would be relocated (photo 6). The boardwalks will keep hikers from walking directly on the ground through this area so the soil will not become compacted and the leaf litter will keep the ground covered. This will prevent soil erosion and make the trail's impact on the surrounding streams minimal. Roughly 30' of boardwalk was constructed between the two bridges and an additional 50' was constructed on the western side leading up to the 24' bridge.

Meanwhile, a fourth crew leveled out a 2' ledge along the side of a hill to re-route the trail from the existing PF2BAY trail to both ends of the new boardwalk and bridge locations (photo 7). Digging a narrow, flattened trail that runs along the side of the hill rather than straight down a hill allows the water to flow across the trail rather than down a long stretch of trail. The shorter distance the water moves over a hiking trail the better because this gives it less time to gather speed and erode the soil. We call this process "side-ledging" and we have been utilizing it on many re-routes throughout



Photo 1:  
24' bridge with  
one end suspended  
in the air.



Photo 2:  
Disassembling  
the 24' bridge.



Photo 3:  
Moving the 24'  
bridge.



Photo 4:  
24' bridge  
frame in its new  
location.



Photo 5:  
Reassembling  
the 12' bridge.



Photo 6:  
Constructing and  
Boardwalks.



Photo 7:  
Side-ledging and  
trail reroute.



Photo 8:  
The finished  
product.

the ACLT trails to try to avoid the erosion issues we are experiencing on some of our older trails.

Photo 8 shows the completed project with the 12' bridge in the foreground and the boardwalk and 24' bridge in the background. The re-routed trail on either end of the bridges and boardwalks are not shown in the picture. At the end of the work day, the crews headed back to ACLT for some lunch, where hands were too full of food to take any photos! ACLT extends its most sincere thank you to all of the volunteers who assisted with the preparation and completion of this impressive project.

Autumn Phillips-Lewis  
Land Manager



**Registration NOW OPEN  
for Class of 2019!**

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or email [landmanager@actweb.org](mailto:landmanager@actweb.org)  
for more information

Check us out on Face-  
book. Follow the Ameri-  
can Chestnut Land Trust  
today!



# Land Manager's Corner

## Changing Trail Conditions at ACLT- Swamp Trail Closed

By now, everyone has heard about 2018's historic amounts of rainfall. You may have felt its effects on your own homes and properties but if you've visited the ACLT trails in the last few months, you have definitely seen its impacts there. In the last newsletter, Taylor Roswall wrote about the myriad of major trail issues that arose due to the rain events this summer and fall. ACLT staff and volunteers are working to combat these issues by completing trail re-routes and installing bridges and boardwalks; however, some trails are just not sustainable in their current locations.

Recently, the ACLT Land Management Committee decided that the South Side Swamp Trail was one of those trails. One of the oldest ACLT trails, it runs along a tributary stream that runs parallel to Scientists Cliffs Road for a stretch before joining with the Gravatt tributary stream. Its proximity to the stream is one of the things that made it a beautiful trail but it is also one of the reasons why it was often very wet and muddy throughout the rainy seasons, even in years with less rainfall. With this year's record-breaking amount of rainfall, the Swamp Trail has started to look like a stream itself, with a few inches of water running down most of its length for the majority of the last few months.

The standing water on the Swamp Trail is the result of a combination of factors. First, the large amount of rainfall has saturated the soils so that new rainfall does not percolate into the soil. Second, this issue has been exacerbated by years of hikers traversing the trail which has compacted the soil making it even more difficult for water to infiltrate into the soil. As the soil gets compacted, the trail becomes "U" shaped, giving the excess water a place to collect rather than run off the trail. The foot traffic on the trail has also worn away leaves and other organic material that are usually on the forest floor, exposing tree roots and soil along the length of the Swamp Trail.

It is unlikely that the Swamp Trail will dry out anytime soon given its route along lowland areas and its proximity to the stream. No one can be sure what future weather patterns will entail, but in the face of climate change, it is likely that they will become more intense. If this current trend for increased intense rainfall is maintained, then boardwalks will need to be installed along the majority of the 0.6-mile trail or the entire trail will need to be re-routed and "side-ledged" along the side of a slope so that the water can drain across the trail to lower ground. Either way, the trail is not sustainable in its current location if current weather conditions continue. Both re-routing or building long stretches of boardwalks mean a considerable investment in the form of materials and staff and volunteer time. The Land Management Committee weighed these costs and decided to recommend to the ACLT Board of Directors that the best option was to close the Swamp Trail for the foreseeable future. At its November 17<sup>th</sup> meeting, the Board of Directors voted to approve this recommendation. This will give the trail a chance to heal and will lessen its impact on the nearby stream as the exposed soil on the trail is now being eroded into the stream as the water runs down the Swamp Trail.

Closing the Swamp Trail has also lessened the density of hiking trails on the South Side. Even passive recreation such as hiking disrupts wildlife and segments habitats. By decreasing the trail density, ACLT is

leaving more undisturbed habitat for the wildlife that calls the Parkers Creek Preserve home. Hikers can still enjoy the Ridge Loop, which runs just 650 feet away from the Swamp Trail in some spots.

The decision to close the Swamp Trail was not an easy one, but the ACLT staff and Land Management Committee thinks that it is the best way to protect the natural resources in that area and maintain safe and sustainable hiking trails at ACLT. We thank you for your understanding.

Autumn Phillips-Lewis  
ACLT Land Manager



Water on the Swamp Trail.

## 23rd Annual Dinner & Auction

For 23 years, the American Chestnut Land Trust has hosted a fall celebration and fundraiser. Originally a chili cook-off, the event has evolved into a catered dinner and silent auction that brings new and long-standing members together for a night of fun. For the staff, the highlight of the evening is the very first moment, when the doors open and friends we've seen yesterday or not for many months begin to arrive. Hugs and laughter fill the reception area. It's the way the evening has started for decades.

The Annual Dinner & Auction provides a chance for land management and office volunteers, board and committee members, and supporters of all kinds to gather and celebrate the efforts of the past year. This year, thanks to the immense talent of designer Sue Dzurec, the room at St. John Vianney's Parish Hall was transformed into a tribute to Parkers Creek. The waterscape theme included reeds and cattails, handmade water foliage, and a wood kayak that appeared to be poised to float up the creek. The centerpiece of the décor was a large and beautiful

Mimi Little painting of the creek itself. In addition to the room design, Sue created a watershed themed appetizer table highlighting farms, forests and even running water for our streams.

Guests had the chance to wander the room to enjoy photos of each season at ACLT while the mood was set by music from the "Junior Bryce Jazz" band. Before the end of the night, guests enjoyed the music so much they were on their feet to dance.

ACLT Vice President, Dave Farr welcomed the guests and introduced Executive Director, Greg Bowen, and Land Manager, Autumn Phillips, who both offered "Thanks and Thoughts" about the year.

The "Live Auction" was an animated portion of the evening this year as Community Relations Manager, Pam Shilling, took on the challenge of auctioneer for the first time. Guests bid on several vacations ranging from a cottage in Colorado to a house in the Abacos, Bahamas.

Everyone enjoyed two very special additions to the live auction. Long-time supporter, Tay Vaughan, designed and built a charming four and a half foot tall "Bird Hotel" which consisted of 7 rooms, awnings and even a little porch swing.

The culmination of the live auction however was a coffee table designed and built by ACLT's good friend, Andy Brown (Calvert Co. Natural Resources Division). The glass top rested on barn wood supports which perfectly displayed a large section of ACLT's name sake American Chestnut Tree. The tree, which was the Maryland Champion Chestnut located on the first property ACLT purchased and protected, came down during a hurricane in 2006. Only a few pieces remain. The beautiful table was the perfect showcase for a precious treasure.

The 2018 Dinner & Auction was a wonderful success that brought many together to celebrate, raised thousands of dollars in support of ACLT's mission and strengthened friendships old and new.

The staff and board would like to thank everyone who attended and shared the evening with us. We would also like to thank the following people for their unwavering support of ACLT and this event:

### **Our remarkable team of Service Talent**

Sue Dzurec  
Calvert Artists' Guild, Inc.,  
Dream Weaver Catering & Cafe,  
Junior Bryce Jazz,  
Rose Thompson  
and the staff and volunteers of St. John Vianney

### **ACLT's Membership & Outreach Committee:**

Penny Moran  
Tim Dow  
Kathy Ellwood  
Julie Hall  
Robyn Truslow  
Connie Willoughby

**And an especially heartfelt thanks to ACLT's AMAZING Volunteer Team!** You made the evening as close to flawless as ever! We're so grateful.



Designer Sue Dzurec created a "waterscape" at the 2019 ACLT Dinner & Auction which featured a large canvas by Mimi Little,

**Thank you to everyone who donated an item or coordinated an experience. It was a tremendous auction because of you!**

Andy Brown  
 Anja Zander  
 BL Johnston  
 Bob Field  
 Bob Jaeger  
 Buck Waller  
 Calvert Brewing Company  
 Carol Khalili  
 Charles Serpan  
 Connie Willoughby & Tim Dow  
 Craig Turner  
 Diana & Paul Dennett  
 Elaine Strong  
 George & Anne Brown  
 Heather Maertens  
 Joe & Carmen Slater  
 John Nance  
 Julie Allinson  
 Kathy Ellwood  
 Kathy Horak  
 Keith Linville  
 Larry Ringgold  
 Laura Amin

Liberty Ski Resort  
 Martin Lowell  
 Michael Kipp  
 Pat Griffin  
 Perry Hampton, Calvert Marine Museum  
 Peter & Randi Vogt  
 Ralph Eshelman  
 Randy Estabrook  
 Ravens Football  
 Raymon Noble  
 Rich Smucker, "Through the Knot" Design  
 RT West  
 Sandy Foley  
 Sergina Rodriguez, Barefoot Wellness  
 Steve & Sue Kullen  
 Susan Helmrich  
 Suzanne Shelden  
 Tay Vaughan & Marcia Gemmert  
 The Washington Nationals  
 Trish Weaver  
 Vicki Rhoads

Pam Shilling  
 Community Relations  
 Manager

## American Chestnut Land Trust Calendar of Events

January - October 2019

### February

- 13— Hike Guide Training (6:30 - 8:30pm)
- 17 Sun — Winter Hike at Double Oak (1:00pm - 3:30pm)

### March

- 2 Sat — Annual Membership Meeting & Luncheon (9:30am - 12:30pm)
- 13 Wed. — 2019 Guided Canoe Trip Calendar Released. Registration opens.
- TBD — Water Quality Monitoring Training (9:00am - 1:00pm)
- 23 Sat — Spring Hiking Trail Maintenance Day (9:00am - 12:00pm, picnic lunch)

### April

- 13 Sat — Earth Day 5K Trail Run (Check In: 8am; Run Start: 9am)
- 14 Sun — Earth Day Clean Up (12:00pm - 3:00pm)
- 28 Sun — Spring Guided Family Hike (1:00pm - 3:00pm)

### May

- TBD — Canoe Guide Training (10:30am - 2:30pm) (Sunday Rain Date)

### June

- 10 Sun — Dog Days of Summer Event (1:00pm - 4:00pm)

### July

- 14 Sun — Southern Maryland Nature Orgs. Event (1:00pm-4:00pm)

### August

- TBD Sat — SUNSET/RISE Canoe Trip (No Rain Date)

### September

- 14 Sat — ACLT Sip & Save (Regional Beer Tasting Fundraiser) Tentative
- 27 Fri — ACLT Table at Youth Day at the Calvert County Fair

### October

- TBD Sat — Fall Hiking Trail Maintenance Day (9:00am - 12:00pm, picnic lunch)
- 17-19 Sat — LTA Rally - Raleigh, NC
- TBD — Parkers Creek Challenge

**ANNOUNCEMENT**  
 Please plan to join us at the



**Annual Meeting**  
 March 2, 2019  
 9:30am - 12:30pm

# Thank you for your support ...

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## New Members

ACLT would like to welcome the following new members since the Fall 2018

Newsletter:

Michael & Juliana Carney  
Kathy & Doug Boughton & Family  
Richard Doucette  
Bob, Barb & Bart Estes  
John Gee  
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Richard Timmons  
James Wamsley

## Gift Memberships

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

Jim & Susan Greene

## Memorial Contributions

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

In memory of **Dr. Christine Boesz**, who was a Charter Member, one of the founders of the ACLT, a longtime supporter, and dedicated volunteer:  
Ray & Sandra Nelson Pace

In memory of **Joseph Mihursky**, who was a Charter Member and a long time supporter:  
Verna Harrison

In memory of **Charles "Hank" Howe**, who was a Sustaining Member and a dedicated supporter:

Fran & Bruce Armstrong  
Judith & David Bonior

## Holly Hill Donations

Thank you to the following, who made donations to the Holly Hill campaign since our last newsletter:

Fran Armstrong  
Daniel Boesz  
The Cloak Family  
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