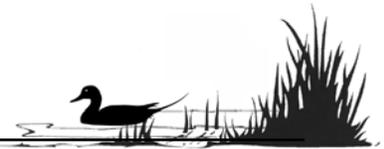


Watershed Observer



Newsletter of the American Chestnut Land Trust

Volume 19 No. 1, Winter 2005

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Calendar Highlights

- April 23 – Earth Day
- April 30 – Canoe Trip
- May 7 – Warrior's Rest Clean-Up Day

See <http://acltweb.org> or page 8 for full calendar and additional information.

2004 Annual Membership Meeting

The year 2005 is well underway with the success of 2004 to raise our spirits to all-time highs and readying ourselves for our 20th Anniversary in 2006! Members attending the ACLT's 18th Annual Meeting in February learned from committee chairs of the challenges and unparalleled accomplishments in land management, land acquisition, implementation of our five-year plan, and the generosity of our membership insuring our financial security. Highlights of the year were the purchase of the Trikas property, the final (almost) recovery from Hurricane Isabel, new organization partnerships, and increased environmental education opportunities.

President Ted Graham chaired the meeting, which was held in the beautiful new Family Life Center facility of St. John Vianney Church. After coffee and muffins in the spacious foyer, the meeting convened in the comfortable auditorium where committee chairs gave an overview of accomplishments of the past year and Rebecca Hanmer, Director of the EPA's

(Continued on page 3)



The 2004 Annual Membership Meeting was held on February 5, 2005, at St. John Vianney's new Family Life Center. Pictured clockwise in front are ACLT members, Ralph Dwan, Joe Nisonger, Mimi Little and Julie Nisonger.



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Land Trust, Inc.**

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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 841 acres and has accepted management of an additional 1845 acres owned by the State of Maryland and The Nature Conservancy.

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From the President's Desk ...

Enjoy and Contribute: The Rewards and Satisfaction of Active Membership

As winter recedes, I want to remind the members of the ACLT community of the many opportunities to **enjoy** ACLT's natural and cultural resources and also how important it is to **contribute** to sustain and expand those opportunities. At the ACLT annual meeting on February 5, our featured speaker, Rebecca Hammer, Director of EPA's Chesapeake Bay Program, emphasized the critical importance of land conservation to the larger challenge of protecting the natural resources of the Chesapeake Bay region. Our Mission Statement succinctly describes what the ACLT is all about in Calvert County:

"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."

By continually striving to fulfill this mission, the contributions of the board, the staff and our numerous volunteers have made the ACLT a unique asset in Calvert County. A quick look at the 2005 calendar lists a few of the ways to enjoy the ACLT's resources and also make a contribution. If it's been a while since you paddled up Parkers Creek, or if you have not taken the trip, join in one of the guided canoe trips. You'll also see opportunities to help repair an old barn, remove invasive species, help out with the Chili Cook-Off, Silent Auction & Dance or pitch in at one of our outreach activities.

The ACLT offers a lot more opportunities to contribute. In addition to special events, our standing committees can use special talents for special activities. Opportunities include maintaining trails, buildings and equipment (the Land Management Committee); preparing publicity, planning for the ACLT 20th anniversary celebration in 2006, organizing the Chili Cook-Off and building up membership (Outreach and Membership); helping ensure financial stability (Budget and Finance); and fundraising (Administration and Fundraising). We can always use more volunteers for collecting and preparing water samples (it's fun). Our Five-Year Plan calls many actions including strengthening our ties with the school system and also the business community. These won't happen without strong volunteer support. Of course, financial contributions are also always welcome. Please note that our annual Spring Appeal will be coming up soon.

The ACLT offers a lot for the Calvert County community to enjoy. One of the greatest sources of satisfaction I have had as president is to see first hand the excellent and diverse contributions from our active membership. Sustaining this level of commitment is critical to continuing success. If you want to become more active in the ACLT, please call the ACLT office—they're always looking for new volunteers.

Ted Graham, President

(Continued from page 1)

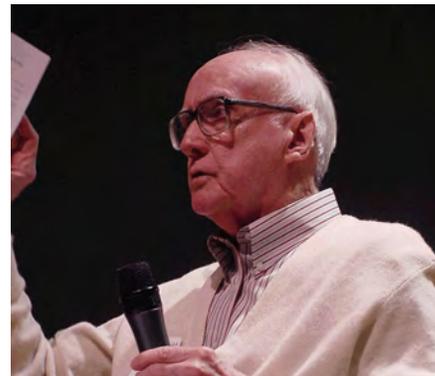
Chesapeake Bay Office, delivered the keynote address.

Board members whose terms were up for renewal were voted back onto the board by the membership, as was new board member, Denise Breitburg. Dr. Breitburg is a Senior Scientist at the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center in Edgewater, Maryland, and has done research in Chesapeake Bay for over 20 years. She earned her BA in Biology from Arizona State University, and MA and Ph.D in Marine Ecology from the University of California, Santa Barbara. She is currently Vice-Chair of the Chesapeake Bay Program Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee, and has served on advisory boards for NOAA and the Bay Program focusing on oyster restoration, fisheries management and water quality standards. Denise has lived in Calvert County since 1984. Her husband, Mark Smith, is an administrator in the St. Mary's County School System. They have two children—Maya, a senior at University of Maryland, and Eli, a freshman at Goucher College. Denise and Mark run Foxtail Potters, a pottery co-op, from their home in Prince Frederick, and enjoy backpacking, skiing and traveling.

Retiring from the board was Harriet Yaffee, a member of the Outreach Committee, liaison to the Calvert County Comprehensive Plan Committee, and responsible for ACLT's involvement with the Chamber of Commerce in promoting Eco-tourism.

Peg Niland and Seaona DeGenaro treated the 96 attendees to a pictorial year in review showing the

accomplishments of our hard working committees, volunteers, and staff. Most of those attending, however, felt the best part of the meeting was the touching presentation by Ted Graham of ACLT's first ever "Presidents' Award" to Paul Berry, Treasurer and Co-chair of the Administration and Fundraising Committee.



ACLT Treasurer Paul Berry received the first "President's Award" at the 18th Annual Meeting.

2004 Presidents' Award

WHEREAS,

He has shown his dedication to the goals of the Trust and to the quality of community life in Calvert County by playing a key role in the governance of the American Chestnut Land Trust throughout the past twelve years.

WHEREAS,

As Treasurer, he serves as an officer of the Trust, a mantle that he assumes with the utmost integrity and sense of responsibility. He oversees the accurate recording of the Trust's receipts and expenditures, reports to the Board of Directors and the membership, and prepares the Trust's financial records for annual, independent audits. In his role as Treasurer, Paul co-chairs the Budget and Finance Committee which develops and administers the Trust's annual operating budget as well as managing its endowment accounts.

WHEREAS,

As Co-Chair of the Administration and Fundraising Committee, member of the three-person Personnel Committee, volunteer member of the staff of the ACLT office, and past member of the Governance Committee, Paul shares his considerable administrative abilities with the Trust, providing invaluable assistance to the Executive Director and the President.

WHEREAS,

In addition to all of these duties, he serves as the unofficial historian of the Trust, ensuring that the Trust operates consistent with its bylaws and other governance documents, all of which he helped to draft. Not infrequently, he is pressed into service as the Board of Director's Recording Secretary, all the while providing sound contributions as an active member of the Board of the ACLT.

NOW, THEREFORE,

The American Chestnut Land Trust is honored to present its first Presidents' Award to:

Paul L. Berry

For his outstanding efforts in pursuit of the conservation of the natural and cultural resources in Calvert County, Maryland.

Presented this 5th day of February, Two Thousand and Five

by the members and Board of Directors of the American Chestnut Land Trust, Inc.

Edward U. Graham Karen H. Edgecombe Joy A. Bartholomew Ralph H. Dwan

ACLT Welcomes Liz Stoffel As New Land Manager

We are very pleased to announce that Elizabeth (Liz) Stoffel has just joined the ACLT as our new Land Manager. The members of the search committee are very excited that our extensive hunt brings us such talent and experience.

Liz comes to us from the Potomac Conservancy where she worked as their Shenandoah Conservation Manager. She was responsible for working with landowners on land stewardship concerns, management of public education programs on watershed and land issues through field trips, outreach events, nature hikes, canoe trips and school education programs. She cultivated partnerships with landowners, government agencies and private resource organizations to conserve land and to protect and restore stream buffers, and other watershed resources.

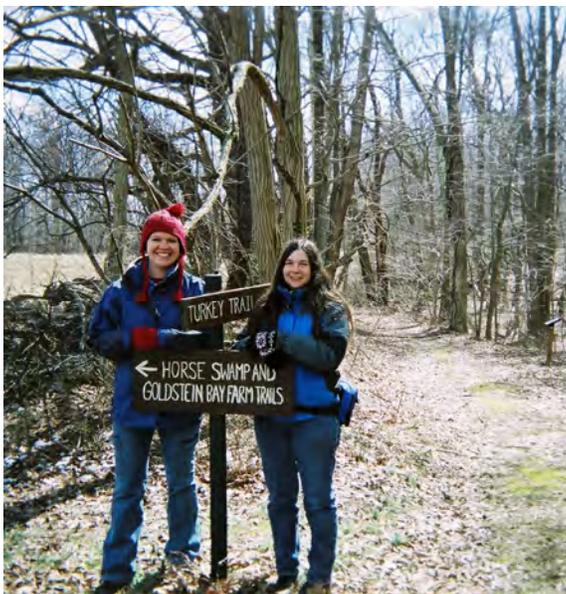
Prior to joining the staff of the Potomac Conservancy, she worked for six years as the Director of the Howard County Conservancy where she became known to us. In addition to the many responsibilities as Director, her special interest was in the facilities management of a 300-year-old farm with a historic house, nine outbuildings, and many gardens. She also coordinated the preliminary portion of the building of a new 9,200 square foot education building. Also during her tenure at Howard County Conservancy, she managed a 232-acre farm including implementing programs for the improvement of wildlife habitat, wetland, grassland, and woodlands. This responsibility included coordinating the planting of 18,000 trees, restoring three wetlands, planting 22 acres of native grasslands, and establishing an heirloom fruit orchard and an American chestnut orchard.

Only on the job for two weeks as of this introduction, Liz has already learned the access points to all 13 tracts of land we own or manage, hiked several miles of trails, made arrangements for the spring hunt club meeting and key components of Earth Day, supervised on-site operations of Volunteer Day, assisted a hunter-volunteer with the removal of vines and trees from the Goldstein Farm tobacco

stripping shed, visited and catalogued numerous management "trouble spots," and has begun planning for upcoming easement monitoring visits.

Easement monitoring will be a top-ranking priority for Liz in 2005, as site visits are due on the properties we monitor which were protected through the Rural Legacy Program. She will be visiting with each landowner, answering any questions they might have, and making a site inspection. The process calls for comparing baseline data on each property with current conditions and working with landowners, if necessary, to bring properties under compliance with their easement requirements. Liz's easy going and friendly manner will be a perfect match with landowners and their families and she looks forward to meeting each of them.

If you were not able to meet Liz at the Annual Meeting, I hope you will have an opportunity to do so on Earth Day, a canoe trip, or one of our many trail or barn improvement projects. Working closely with Seaona DeGennaro, our Community Relations Coordinator, I'm sure we're going to see plenty of new faces among our dedicated volunteer corps! I urge you to contact Liz at the office with any of your questions regarding our land management procedures or projects and to let her know of any problems you see on our trails or land that need attention. She can be reached at 410-586-1570 or by e-mail at land@acltweb.org. Feel free to contact her just to say, "Welcome Aboard!"



Liz Stoffel (right) and Community Relations Coordinator, Seaona DeGennaro, scout North Side trails for Volunteer Day Projects.

Annual Spring Volunteer Work Day

Daffodil and tulip bulbs peeking above ground signals that its time once again to “spring clean” the ACLT trails for hikers. On Saturday, March 12th, two dozen volunteers showed up at Double Oak Farm with work gloves on, a coffee cup in one hand and pruning shears or a saw in the other! Especially impressive was the arrival of four new volunteers who hadn’t worked with the ACLT before: Gerald McKeaver, Jeremiah Rose, Chris Greenwell and his son Tom. Gerald saw one of the ACLT’s “Hiking Trail Maintenance Day” posters hanging up on the community board of Giant Food Store and decided on the spot to join our efforts, despite not knowing a soul at the ACLT. Jeremiah Rose offered to be a volunteer last summer at a Jefferson-Patterson Park event and offered his services without hesitation when notified of the event. Chris and Tom Greenwell were notified of the event from trail volunteer Thom Perry and traveled from Bowie to participate. Isn’t that what “volunteering” is all about? When notified of a need, rest assured ACLT volunteers and Maryland citizens alike lend a helping hand. All in the name of preserving nature, enjoying open space and encouraging other outdoor enthusiasts.

At the tail end of winter it is such a satisfying feeling to get outdoors with others, put on work gloves and prepare the trails for hikers. From 9 a.m. to 12 noon, one could find volunteers all along Goldstein Bay Farm Trail, cutting back invasive vines, lining the edges of the trail with sticks and branches, cutting branches that hung across the path and even chain sawing through trees that had fallen across footpaths. The trail cleaning efforts this workday were concentrated to the Horse Swamp and Goldstein Bay Farm Trails. The latter trail is somewhat difficult to traverse, following fairly steep ravines, but is well worth it as it offers spectacular views of the Bay and Parkers Creek. At noon everyone convened at the Double Oak picnic pavilion for executive director Peg Niland’s famous barbeque and baked beans.

Thank you to volunteers Mike Howerton, Ray Saah, Tom Carmany, Sue Curley, Steve Crytzer, the Treece Family, Gerald McKeaver, Rich Pfeleiderer, Mike & Ginger Walls, Thom Perry, Chuck Hankins, Jeremiah Rose, John Little, Chris Greenwell and son Tom, Leon Myers, and Kathy Stafford for your time, effort and



New land manager, Liz Stoffel, addresses two dozen volunteers who braved the winter cold in the name of trail maintenance on Volunteer Work Day.

gusto getting the Horse Swamp and Goldstein Bay Farm Trails ready for hiking season! If you missed “Hiking Trail Maintenance Day” on March 12, but want to join ACLT volunteers for a rewarding day outdoors, don’t despair. Join us for our **Annual Earth Day Clean-up, Celebration and Beach Picnic on Saturday, April 23**. For more details contact us at <http://acltweb.org>, info@acltweb.org or 410-586-1570. We’d love to see you there!

Seaona DeGennaro

Volunteering Opportunities

The ACLT needs you on its volunteer force. Volunteer opportunities are endless ranging from our volunteer office staff to the Trail Mowing Volunteer Crew to Barn Maintenance Volunteer Crew and beyond.

We are looking for people to join the ACLT booth at various outreach events, folks who like to garden, prune, and clean-up roadways or would like to serve on a committee and anyone who knows how to drive a nail or paddle a canoe. Whatever your specialty or interest is, we’ve got a rewarding opportunity for you!

Interested in writing an article for the ACLT newsletter, leading a canoe trip or guided hike? Don’t hesitate, give the ACLT a call at 410-586-1570, drop us a note at info@acltweb.org or P.O. Box 204, Port Republic, MD 20676, or just stop by our office at 2420 Aspen Road, Port Republic, MD.

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 is by e-mail to info@acltweb.org, but you can always drop a note with your 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 www.acltweb.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,
Community Relations
Coordinator

Land Manager's Corner

Hello to all of you who support and enjoy the Parkers Creek and Governors Run Watersheds. I met so many of you at the Annual Meeting in February, but thought I should take a moment to introduce myself to those of you I didn't have the chance to meet.

I have been an avid supporter of conservation efforts and outdoor recreation since my teenage years working for the summer in the Parks Program in Washington, DC. I originally set out to begin a career in conservation and went to a community college in western New York (Canandaigua, NY) for Soil and Water Conservation. When my children were young I was an organic farmer and taught environmental science to school-age children. Later, I was able to return to school at the University of Maryland to finish my degree in Natural Resource Management (Plant and Wildlife). I interned with DNR Fisheries Division and have worked for two land trusts since then: the Howard County Conservancy and Potomac Conservancy.

My professional affiliations have been varied. I am a member of Future Harvest/Chesapeake Alliance for Sustainable Agriculture and Friends of the Shenandoah River (a citizen water quality monitoring group). I have been a member of MAEOE, the Maryland Association of Environmental and Outdoor Educators; University of Maryland Cooperative Extension Master Gardeners; the American Association of Botanical Gardens and Arboreta; the Howard County Beekeepers; and the Virginia Association of Biological Farmers.

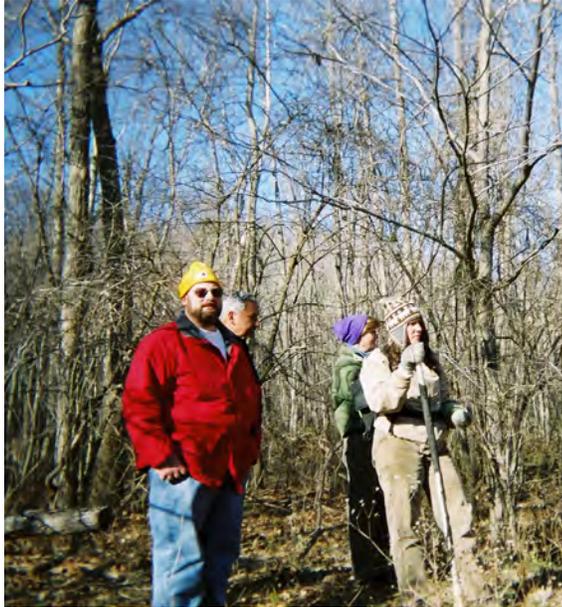
Besides my previous work preserving and restoring lands, I have designed environmental education curriculum and taught all ages, Pre-K through adult. I have side interests in wild edible and medicinal plants, beekeeping, outdoor survival skills, paleontology, archaeology and local history. Although I "garden," my expertise seems to be more in killing plants, so I've learned to focus that skill on invasive removal!

I am very interested in sustainable communities and in balancing ecological needs with human needs. The preservation of cultural and ecological values is often very challenging. I know that what makes this area of Calvert County so special are the efforts of the members and volunteers who have worked hard to preserve and balance these values.

I am a dedicated canoeist and kayaker (as my parents had me in and on the water before I could walk). If you should see me out on the trail with a backpack full, don't worry—I am not camping (its just cans for weight), I am preparing for future backpacking treks. I have three grown children; one of whom will move to Warrior's Rest with me when her college semester is over.

I am looking forward to meeting and working with you on the great variety of projects we have here on ACLT properties. I absolutely love working with volunteers. I know volunteers are core to making an organization like ACLT work!

**ACLT Winter Hike
Double Oak Farm,
February 19, 2005**



Sunny skies and gentle breezes welcomed hikers to the Parkers Creek Trail for a winter hike and tree identification led by Peg Niland.

Left from left to right: Doug Barnes of Waldorf and Geocaching enthusiast; Peter Stathis and Karen Edgecombe, ACLT board members, and Chris Schmitthenner of Mechanicsville.
Above: Hikers overlook Parkers Creek and Chesapeake Bay

Earth Day 2005

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

April 23, 2005

Mark your Calendars! Our annual five-community cleanup and picnic is just days away and we know you don't want to miss this really worthwhile and fun event. Dumpsters will be placed on: (1) Governors Run Road, (2) in the ACLT parking lot on Scientists Cliff Road, (3) on Double Oak Road off Dares Beach Road and (4) at the end of Parkers Creek Road. Directions to special project areas will be announced as we all gather at the ACLT Barn in the parking lot on Scientists Cliffs Road. After the 9 a.m. to 12 noon cleanup effort, we will gather on the beach at Governors Run 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 to volunteer your truck, please call our land manager, Liz Stoffel, at 410-586-1570.

Remember: Picnic - 12:00 noon
Governor Run Beach

ACLT Calendar of Events

Saturday, April 23 - 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!

Saturday, May 7 – Warrior’s Rest Sanctuary Clean-Up Day – Join us as we work to maintain the gardens and house at Warrior’s Rest.

Saturday, May 21 – Mind, Body & Spirit Day at Anmarie Garden – Be a part of this relaxing day where visitors are provided creative ways to lead healthier, more enjoyable lives. Volunteers needed to join the ACLT booth where we will host a hands-on nature craft

Saturday, September 10 – Holly Arboretum Day - Join the Holly Arboretum Volunteer Crew at the bucolic Warrior’s Rest as they prune and maintain these historic trees.

Saturday, October 8 – 10th Annual Chili Cook-Off, Silent Auction & Dance - Enter your best chili recipe, bid at the auction, catch up with other ACLT members and enjoy the evening!

Saturday, October 22 – Ward Barn Day – Interested in historic tobacco barns? Join us as we repair the Ward Tobacco Barn. Volunteers with carpentry skills needed!

Saturday, October 29 - Tales for a Haunted Trail at Anmarie Garden - Put on your Halloween costumes and bring the whole family for a walk through the garden trail lined with fun booths and loads of free candy. If you are interested in manning our booth, handing out candy and catching the Halloween spirit, give Seona a call!

Saturday, November 11 – Volunteer Appreciation Dinner – The ACLT staff hosts this incredible evening with delicious food and handmade items to honor and thank our dedicated and faithful volunteers.

Saturday, December 10 - Greens Sale and Hayride –

Fresh cut evergreens for holiday decorations, drink hot cider and take a hayride to the beach. A wonderful chance to meet and reconnect with people right before the holiday season

Canoe Trips*:

- Saturday, April 30 – First Canoe Trip (10 a.m. – 1 p.m.)
- Saturday, May 21 – Canoe Trip (12 noon – 3 p.m.)
- Saturday, June 18 – Father’s Day Float (10 a.m. – 1 p.m.)
- Saturday, July 9 – Sunset Canoe Trip (5 p.m. – 8 p.m.)
- Saturday, August 13 – Summer Canoe Trip (10 a.m. – 1 p.m.)
- Saturday, September 17 – Harvest Moon Canoe Trip (6 p.m. – 9 p.m.)
- Sunday, October 2 – Canoe Trip (10 a.m. – 1 p.m.)

*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 <http://acltweb.org> and future newsletters or call the office to confirm dates, times and locations.



Around ACLT

ACLT Receives \$5,000 Grant from REI, Inc.

For those of you who are already familiar with Recreational Equipment Incorporated (REI), you probably know how incredible their products are and how friendly their staff is, but did you know that they generously support groups such as the ACLT? Thanks to past land manager, Damon Hearne, who identified the need for a new, more stable canoe fleet and searched out a grant to meet that need, our canoe program will reap the benefits of acquiring this \$5,000 grant beginning in 2005. With the help of the REI College Park manager, Kelly Hasty, nine new *Old Town Guide 147* canoes were chosen & ordered just in time for the 2005 Guided Canoe Trip season.

For those of you who haven't had the chance to join one of the ACLT's Guided Canoe Trips, there is no better time than now to do so! Canoe trips are lead by ACLT volunteers on Parkers Creek from spring until fall. This year's guided canoe trips are scheduled for: April 30, May 21, June 18, July 9, August 13, September 17 and October 2. See calendar on page 8 for details.

For more information regarding our canoe trips, make a reservation and/or find out how to volunteer to be a canoe guide, contact us at 410-586-1570 or info@acltweb.org.



Presentation of the \$5,000 REI grant. Pictured from left to right are Seaona DeGennaro, ACLT Community Relations Coordinator, Sammy Zambon, previous ACLT Land Manager; and Kelly Hasty, College Park REI store manager.

ACLT Goes to Annapolis



President Ted Graham, member Peter Vogt, and Executive Director Peg Niland met with Delegate Sue Kullen (D) and Anthony O'Donnell (R) on Legislative Day in Annapolis on February 21, 2005. Pictured

Does Your Boat Still Float?

The ACLT Boat Donation program is looking for a few good boats. If you're looking to upgrade this spring or summer, and want to avoid the hassle of selling an old boat or just want to find a new home for a boat that hasn't been used for a while, please consider donating your boat to our program.

We are looking for boats, both motor and sail, and in reasonably good shape that can be spruced up and sold quickly. John Little, at Flag Harbor Marine Service in St. Leonard, has offered to clean up the boats, make small repairs, store the boats, and handle the sale.

These donations are tax deductible and the money raised from the sale of these boats will be used to help ACLT manage and preserve land in the Parkers Creek watershed. So if you, or someone you know, are interested in donating a boat to the program, please call John Little at 410-586-1915 or email him at fhms@flagharbor.com.

Volunteer Spotlight – Ed Greene

Seona: Ed, your depth and breadth of knowledge of the ACLT continually amaze me. I know you have been around the ACLT much longer than I, but how did you first find out about the ACLT?

Ed Greene: Let me digress a little to explain first how we came to be interested in Calvert County. In 1981 my wife, Jan, and I joined a group of 14 other families in purchasing an 88-acre tract of land on the south side of Scientist Cliffs with about 1,000-foot. frontage on the Bay. This tract had 15 structures (mainly small cabins) that were in a rundown condition. The new owners decided to subdivide this tract into a residential section (8 acres) as the Governor's Run Condominium Assn. (GRCA) and formed the Governor's Run Development Corporation (GRDC) to hold title to the remaining 80 acres of undeveloped land. During the first few years most of our collective energy was focused on fixing up our individual cabins and we gave little thought to plans for GRDC. Around 1984 we got around to thinking about what to do with the GRDC land. Most of us had assumed that we would eventually develop it for new home construction. However, at the urging of Peter Vogt (a GRCA owner as well as a founder of ACLT), we decided to register the GRDC land as an Agricultural Preservation District in order to minimize the real estate taxes. Both Peter Vogt and Ralph Dwan gave presentations at GRDC meetings that acquainted us with land trusts in general and ACLT in particular. Almost half of the GRCA

owners are now members of ACLT.

Seona: I am gratefully aware of the rewards of working **with** volunteers, as I have the pleasure of working with so many, including you, on a weekly basis. From your perspective what are some of the rewards of being a volunteer for the ACLT?

Ed Greene: When I retired from NASA in 1993, I wasn't quite ready to fully retire. At that time I was on the ACLT Board and chairman of the Finance Committee. I feel a sense of pride in being part of the group that transformed the ACLT from being an organization that both finances the purchase AND manages the land in the Parkers Creek watershed, to an organization that primarily facilitates preservation through partnerships with government and national non-profit organizations. Furthermore I'm proud of the ACLT's ability to provide responsible local land management of these properties.

Seona: You and Jan are gems to us as you are always a delight to work with and the range of your volunteerism is extensive throughout the organization. What are some of the volunteer activities that **you** enjoy the most?

Ed Greene: Both Jan and I enjoy helping to clear the ivy from the Warrior's Rest holly trees on ACLT work days. The first time that we participated, the trees were covered in ivy and I couldn't see how we would improve their condition. When we, along with several other

participants, finished a few hours later, the holly grove looked 100% better and I felt pride in playing a part in this effort.

Seona: I hear over and over from fellow Calvert County residents that a sense of community is very important to them. Since you've moved down to Calvert County full time, do you feel that the ACLT provides a sense of community for you?

Ed Greene: Indeed Yes! Since we are only the second GRCA homeowner (out of 15) to move down to Port Republic, we would be very lonely had it not been for the many friends that we had previously made in the ACLT community.



Double Oak Farm

Thank you for your support ...

New Members

ACLT would like to welcome the following new members who have joined since the Fall 2004 Newsletter:

Mr. & Mrs. Taylor Bowen
Dr. Bretton Kent
Ms. Elizabeth Ann Cox & Mr. Richard Williams
Dr. & Ms. William Lamp
Mr. & Mrs. Matt Massaua
Dr. Margaret Palmer
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Poling
Dr. Paula Shrewsbury & Dr. Mike Raupp
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Straka
Mr. Alvin Wilson

Sustaining Members

The ACLT would like to congratulate the following members who have reached the Sustaining Member contribution level:

Mr. Vernon Brumbaugh

Fall Appeal

ACLT wishes to thank the following members who made a contribution to the 2004 Fall Appeal Campaign received after December 13, 2004:

Flag Harbor Marine Service
Mr. & Mrs. Stanley Benning
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Berry
Mr. & Mrs. John Campbell
Ms. Rosalie Mandelbaum & Mr. Perry Cohen
Mr. & Mrs. Curtis Drumm
Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Dwan
Dr. & Mrs. Glenn Edgecombe
Ms. Paula Johnson & Mr. Carl Fleischhauer
Mr. & Mrs. Duncan Frazer
Dr. & Mrs. William Gay
Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Hammett
Mr. & Mrs. William Hosler
Mr. Don Kollmorgen
Mr. John McNeely
Dr. Kathleen Miller
Ms. Pamela-Jeanne Moran
Ms. Peg Niland
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Nisonger
Dr. & Mrs. Austin Platt
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Rodgers
Mr. Daniel Sampson
Ms. Loretta Schaeffer & Mr. Gian Carlo Guarda
Ms. Leslie Starr & Mr. Joseph Turner
Mr. & Mrs. Jeremy Stone
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Swinton
Mr. Wilmer Waller
Mr. & Mrs. Jonathan Warner

General Contributions and Designated Gifts

General Donations

Mr. & Mrs. Paul Blayne
Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Dwan
Mr. & Mrs. Rick Farman
Mr. & Mrs. James Hollowell
Mr. & Mrs. Walter Lippold
Ms. Joanne Longhill
& Mr. James Borell, Jr.
Ms. Mary McGahey & Mr. Todd Sheldon
Mr. John McGahey
Mr. & Mrs. John McGahey
McGahey-Dwan Families

Thank you to the band *Rockfish* (Susan Berman, Chris Garrett, Gary Pendleton & Ray Saunders) for contributing \$1 from every *Shady Grove* CD sold.

Contribution for Land Acquisition

Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Dwan

Contribution for Warrior's Rest Holly Arboretum in honor of Karen Lucas:
NCAFGC Gardening Consultants Council

Gift Memberships

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

Mrs. Ethel Dutky
Mr. & Mrs. Philip Fleming
Dr. Ted Graham
Capt. & Mrs. Patrick Murphy USN (Ret)
Ms. Peg Niland
Ms. Margaret Dunkle Welch

Memorial Contributions

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

Donations made in memory of Charter member & longtime ACLT supporter, Mr. Allan Loew:
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Anderson
Mr. & Mrs. Stanley Benning
Mr. Frederick Blake
Dr. Christina & Col. Dan Boesz
Mrs. Elaine Dunkle & Mr. Peter Cochran
Mr. John Diering, Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Dwan
Mr. & Mrs. Jane Head
Mr. & Mrs. Gary Loew
Mr. Henry R. Loew Trust

Capt. & Mrs. Patrick Murphy USN (Ret)
Ms. Peg Niland
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Nisonger
Mr. & Mrs. James Rausch
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Steller, Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Stoffel
Mr. Louis Tacchetti
Col. Caroline Van Mason

Donation made in memory of Mrs. Luella Kollmorgen, mother of Charter Member & longtime ACLT supporter, Don Kollmorgen:
Dr. Christina & Col. Dan Boesz

Donation made in memory of Mr. Herb Kollmorgen, father of Charter Member & longtime ACLT supporter, Don Kollmorgen:
Dr. Christina & Col. Dan Boesz

Donations made in memory of Ms. Emmy Vogt, Charter Member & longtime ACLT supporter:

Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Dwan
Dr. Nancy Mck. Smith

Donations made in memory of Mrs. Anne Hanke, Sustaining Member & strong supporter since 1987:

Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Dwan
Dr. Nancy Mck. Smith

Donations made in memory of Mr. George Rickel, Sustaining Member & strong supporter since 1996:

Mr. & Mrs. Michael DeGennaro
Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Dwan

Donation made in memory of Mr. Norman Prince, Sr., Charter Member & longtime ACLT supporter:

Mr. Lewis Firth

Donation made in memory of Clinton (Pete) Trott, volunteer and supporter since 1999:

Double Oak Hunt Club

Donations made in memory of "Taz", Double Oak Farm's unofficial greeter and retired trail guide:

Mrs. Seaona DeGennaro
Mr. & Mrs. James Cawood
Mr. & Mrs. Leon Myers
Ms. Diana Niland
Ms. Peg Niland
Ms. Elizabeth Stoffel
Mr. & Mrs. Byron Young

Come Join Us!

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

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 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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**Earth Day
April 23**