

# Newsletter



## ACLT Archaeological Survey

It has turned out to be another very exciting year with many interesting finds as the second phase of archaeological survey in the Parkers Creek watershed was completed this January. The test area fell to the north of Parkers Creek and south of Dares Beach Road. Both the Turner and Double Oak properties were tested extensively. The wooded areas were tested with excavation pits 15 meters apart, which were approximately a foot wide and roughly two feet deep. All of the soil was sifted through wire mesh to determine the presence of prehistoric and historic artifacts. The open fields were examined with surface walkover and all artifacts were collected systematically. A total of 1324 excavation units were completed and five fields were examined. The prehistoric artifacts identified during the survey were projectile points, stone tools and a ceramic fragment. The prehistoric artifacts span both the Archaic and Woodland Periods, which range in date from roughly 9000 B.C. to A.D. 1500. The historic artifacts collected included ceramic, glass, brick, and tobacco pipe fragments, which dated from the mid

1700's through the early part of the 1900's.

There were nine archaeological sites identified during the survey, four of which were located on the Double Oak property. One of the most interesting sites of the four was an old house site that dated to the early part of the 1700's through the middle of the 1800's. There was a great deal of tobacco pipe and ceramic fragments located in this area. Two other large house sites dating to this period were identified on the Turner property north of the Double Oak property. The four other historic sites identified were small house sites dating from the mid 1800's through the early 1900's.

The prehistoric sites identified contained projectile points and stone chips, which were a by product of stone tool production. These sites were most likely small, short-term hunting camps once used by the Native Americans of the area. One of the most important prehistoric artifacts identified during the survey was a single piece of ceramic. It was the only piece of ceramic identified during both years of survey. It demonstrates that the water-

shed was once occupied by Woodland Indians around the 1500's. The degree of occupation is still unclear, but we now know that there was a Woodland occupation in the watershed.

There were a total of forty archaeological sites identified in the watershed during both the 1997 and 1998. All of the sites identified have contributed to the history and activities in the watershed over the course of thousands of years. They illustrate settlement patterns of Native and African Americans as well as shed light on the economic and social issues of the early eighteenth through twentieth centuries.

Further investigation of these sites has the potential to reveal more about the land use and past inhabitants of the Parkers Creek area as well as placing Parkers Creek into a greater context within Southern Maryland. I would like to thank all of the members of the ACLT for their kindness and support throughout the project. I will be giving a talk in the spring to discuss the project in further detail and look forward to sharing the finds of this exciting season with all of you.

—Molly Stephens

## ACLT Web Site

ACLT now has a home page on the World Wide Web. The Web address is <http://www.anserc.org/aclt/>. We are indebted to our neighbors, the Estuarine Research Center of the Academy of Natural Sciences, for hosting the ACLT Web pages. Other Calvert county organizations and national land trust groups have links to our site on their Web pages and we hope that this expo-

sure will generate additional interest in and support for our projects as well as a boarder membership base.

Our "Web presence" features information about our organization, the land, and our activities. We have images of activities such as canoe trips, Earth Day, and the cemetery restoration. Beginning with this issue, the ACLT newsletter will also be found on our Web site.

If you don't have an online computer at home, try a local library or stop by the ACLT office during business hours. You can contribute to the Web site by suggesting topics for "photo essays" and loaning us your 35 mm slides or color prints. Send material to the ACLT office.

—Ellen and David Farr



## Newsletter of the American Chestnut Land Trust, Inc.

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The Newsletter is 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 the ACLT, which was founded in 1986, has preserved 810 acres and has accepted management of an additional 900 acres owned by The Nature Conservancy and the Maryland Department of Natural Resources.

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Nancy McK Smith

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# From the President's Desk

Dear ACLT Members,

At ACLT's annual meeting in October many of you had an opportunity to hear Carl Fleischhauer's eloquent tribute to our past president, Ralph Dwan. Ralph and Mary Dwan's involvement with ACLT predates our founding in 1986 and has remained strong ever since. Look for Ralph and Mary on the trails, and for Ralph at ACLT committee meetings where he continues to provide leadership, enthusiasm and wise counsel.

Let me say hello to those ACLT members whom I've not yet had an opportunity to meet. I became your president in October and I eagerly look forward to meeting you, our members, and to helping to fulfill your expectations that ACLT will continue to be an organization that does important work which attracts your enthusiastic support.

By way of a brief introduction, I've lived in Calvert County for ten years, coming here from my native West Virginia via Florida and Louisiana. I am the executive director of a scientific society, the Estuarine Research Federation. The members of ERF work on research and management of coastal and estuarine areas around the world. I love our special corner of Calvert County and I plan to follow Ralph's example of a long term involvement with ACLT.

Ralph would agree that the thing that makes it great to be the president of ACLT is our magnificent TEAM of leaders and supporters. Read on in this newsletter and you'll hear all about the excellent accomplishments of our committees in 1998. The board and committee members who give so generously of their time and talents are responsible for our successes. Other

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individuals and organizations make major contributions to our successes too. Among them are: The Nature Conservancy; Maryland Department of Natural Resources; our kind grantors Maryland Environmental Trust, Spring Creek Foundation, Baltimore Gas and Electric, The Marpat Foundation, Calvert County Cultural Arts, and First Trust; and the staff of various Calvert County departments.

Since 1991 Peg Niland has worked for ACLT, first as Administrator and since last October as our Executive Director. The board created the Executive Director position to acknowledge that ACLT has grown beyond its initial scope where volunteers could conduct most of our business. Peg became our first Executive Director as a result of her dedication and hard work. During Peg's time with ACLT our land management responsibilities have grown from the initial 392 acres to over 2,480 acres! We expect that this responsibility will continue to grow.

Your volunteer contributions will continue to be the backbone of ACLT. Last year over 2,609 hours of time were contributed by our corps of smart, enthusiastic and competent volunteers. ACLT's success is proof that you CAN still get good help! This is true because ACLT's mission of stewardship allows us to put both our heads and our hearts into our ACLT-related work. Thanks to ALL who provide this good help!

Happily yours!  
Joy Bartholomew, President

# ACLT Calendar

March 27 – 2:00 p.m.  
Old Parkers Creek  
Road Walk

April 17 – 10:00 a.m.  
Parkers Creek  
Canoe Trip

April 24 – 9:00 a.m.  
Earth Day

June 12  
Parkers Creek  
Canoe Trip

June 26  
Family Day

August 28  
Parkers Creek  
Canoe Trip

October 2 (tentative)  
Chili Cookoff and  
Auction

October 23  
ACLT's Annual  
Membership Meeting

November 6  
Parkers Creek  
Canoe Trip

December 11  
Greens Sale/Hayride  
(Warrior's Rest)



## Annual Earth Day Clean Up and Picnic

Communities of  
Scientists Cliffs, Parkers Creek  
Governor's Run,  
and Kenwood Beach  
*and*  
Double Oak Hunt Club  
and Southern  
Maryland Hunt Club

9:00 a.m.  
Meet at ACLT Parking Lot  
Bring Gloves!

12:30 p.m. - Picnic  
Kenwood Beach  
(Rt. 4 south to Governors Run Road – follow signs)

# Thank you for your support ...

## New Members

### Members Are Our Strength.

ACLT welcomes the following new members who have joined in 1998:

Mr. & Mrs. Karl G. Amick  
Mr. & Mrs. Alfred V. Basile  
Jo Anne Longhill & James W. Borell, Jr.  
Mr. Carl Brown  
Calvert Farmland Trust, Inc.  
Mr. & Mrs. John C. Campbell  
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Cooksey  
Mr. Thomas M. Crotty  
Ms. Betsy Detwiler  
Mr. & Mrs. Dean Farver  
Mrs. Jefferson B. Feagin  
Mr. & Mrs. Jim Gscheidle  
Sara & Nicholas Gwynn  
Mr. Scott Hadley  
Ms. Julie Allinson Hatch  
Mr. & Mrs. Patrick J. Head  
Mr. & Mrs. James C. Hollowell  
Mr. & Mrs. E. Wendell Hosley  
Ms. Marcy Damon & Mr. John Kane  
Ms. Ruth T. Keimig  
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Klausner  
Mr. Joseph Koenig  
Ms. Amy M. Ludlow  
Dr. Keith Scanlan Matlack  
Dr. Donald McNellis  
Mr. & Mrs. Mark Michelini  
Mr. & Mrs. Leon W. Myers, Jr.  
Mr. James R. Niederlehner  
Mr. Robert Orsini  
Mr. & Mrs. Geoffrey S. Parker  
Mr. Christopher M. Rosenlund  
Ms. Elizabeth Ross  
Mr. Gage A. Schubert  
Ms. Susan Ellsworth Shaw  
Denise L. Breitburg & Mark G. Smith  
Mr. & Mrs. Lester C. Smith, Jr.  
Mr. James W. Stone  
Ms. Erin L. Strickland  
Candace J. Sullivan & Jule M. Sugarman  
Mr. R. Scott Thompson  
Mr. & Mrs. Gonzalo Tornell  
Ms. Martha C. Turner  
Heather Harper-Troje & Eric R. Turner  
Dr. Thomas B. Turner, M.D.  
Mr. David Van Kuren  
Mrs. Mary C. Walker  
Mr. & Mrs. Philip Watson  
Ms. Nancy Watts  
Mr. Christopher G. Wye  
Mr. Joseph P. Zocchi

## Special Contributors

### 1998 Fundraising Contributors

Our sincere appreciation to the following members who generously contributed to our Spring and Fall Special Appeals:

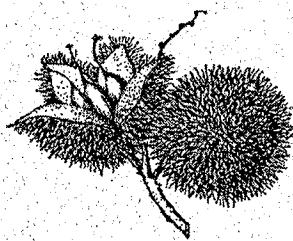
#### Spring Appeal

Mr. & Mrs. Roger A. Anderson  
Ms. Joy A. Bartholomew  
Mrs. Mary Beasley  
Dr. & Mrs. Charles Bennett  
Mr. & Mrs. Paul L. Berry  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert E. Boies  
Mr. & Mrs. James T. Cavanaugh  
Mr. & Mrs. Arthur E. Cochran  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Coffin  
Rev. Peter James Daly  
Mr. & Mrs. Gautum Datta  
Amelia Fry & Rex Davis  
Mr. & Mrs. Allen W. Dischinger, Jr.  
Mr. & Mrs. Freeman Dodsworth  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Drury  
Ms. Ethel Dutky  
Mr. & Mrs. Ralph H. Dwan, Jr.  
Mr. & Mrs. Samuel M. Ellsworth  
Paula Johnson & Carl Fleischhauer  
Senator & Mrs. Bernie Fowler  
Mrs. Magda Freeman  
Mrs. Margaret C. Gilbert  
Mr. & Mrs. Edward P. Greene  
Drs. Patrick Griffin  
Mr. William B. Haile  
Mr. & Mrs. John J. Heberle  
Mr. & Mrs. Conrad L. Hoska  
Mr. & Mrs. Phillip S. Hughes  
Ms. Elizabeth L. Johnston  
Mr. & Mrs. William D. Johnston  
Mrs. Lucille M. Jones  
Ms. Janis King  
Ms. D. Jane Klemer  
Mr. Don H. Kollmorgen  
Mr. John W. Little  
Mr. & Mrs. E. Allan Loew  
Mr. & Mrs. Gary A. Loew  
Mrs. Patricia Lynch  
Mr. & Mrs. Ron C. Magnussen  
Mr. Don Mighell  
Mr. Hagner R. Mister  
Mr. & Mrs. Morris Mitchell  
Capt. & Mrs. Patrick Murphy USN (ret.)  
Mr. & Mrs. Franklin W. Nutter  
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen T. Phillips  
Rev. & Mrs. William M. Plummer  
Mr. & Mrs. Ted S. Post  
Mr. & Mrs. Norman Prince  
Mr. Glen O. Pyles  
Mr. Brett N. Raynor  
Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Romney  
Mr. & Mrs. M. J. Rubino  
Mrs. Roberta Safer  
Dr. James Sanders

Mr. Leland Schubert  
Mrs. Mary-Stuart Sierra  
Mrs. Susan Slaughter  
Mr. Robert Steiner  
Dr. & Mrs. George S. Switzer  
Mr. & Mrs. J. Mark Switzer  
Nancy Gardner & James Switzer  
Leslie Starr & Joseph Turner  
Dr. & Mrs. Peter R. Vogt  
Mr. Wilmer Waller  
Mr. John R. Webster  
Mr. & Mrs. James E. Williams  
Mr. Alan E. Wilson  
Mrs. Anne C. Zehner

#### Fall Appeal

Ms. Joy A. Bartholomew  
Mr. & Mrs. David F. Beard  
Mr. & Mrs. Stanley O. Benning  
Mr. & Mrs. Paul L. Berry  
Mr. & Mrs. James T. Cavanaugh  
Mr. & Mrs. Arthur E. Cochran  
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Dennett  
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Mr. & Mrs. Freeman Dodsworth  
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Mrs. Lucy Fuson  
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Mr. & Mrs. Edward P. Greene  
RADM James B. Greene, USN (ret.)  
Ms. Margo C. Groff  
Dr. Edward Hacskaylo  
Dr. William B. Haile  
Mr. & Mrs. Phillip S. Hughes  
Ms. Diana F. Jacquot  
Ms. Elizabeth L. Johnston  
Mr. & Mrs. William D. Johnston  
Mr. & Mrs. Todd W. Kent  
Col. & Mrs. Francis King  
Mrs. James J. King  
Ms. Janis King  
Dr. & Mrs. William Kirwan  
Ms. D. Jane Klemer  
Mr. Don Kollmorgen  
Mr. & Mrs. Steve Leckar  
Mr. & Mrs. Walter J. Lippold  
Mr. & Mrs. Lee McKnight  
Mr. Robert Orsini  
Mrs. William F. Pfeiffer  
Shirley Mihursky & Robert Pfeiffer  
Mr. Glen O. Pyles  
Mr. & Mrs. E.M. Rabenold, Jr.  
Ms. Roberta Safer & Mr. Klaus Zwilsky  
Mrs. Rosalind S. Springsteen  
Mr. Robert Steiner  
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph D. Steller, Jr.  
Ms. Martha C. Turner  
Leslie Starr & Joseph Turner  
Mr. & Mrs. Edward J. Van Mason



# Around ACLT ...

## Highlights from the 1998 Annual Meeting

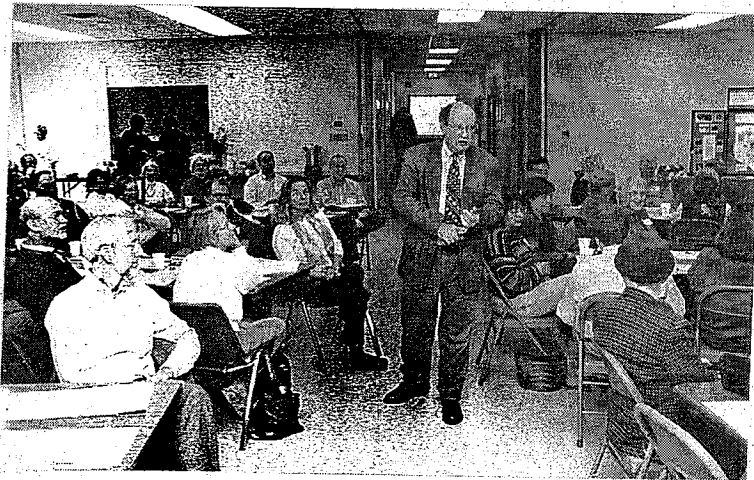
The 11<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the American Chestnut Land Trust was held October 24, 1998. This was a special occasion as members honored retiring Board member Ralph Dwan. Ralph Dwan was an important figure in the initial effort to organize the land trust and protect the first parcel of land. He served as president from 1986 to 1988 and again from 1993 through 1998. He also served terms as secretary and treas-

urer. His wise counsel and leadership did much to chart the direction and provide leadership to the organization.

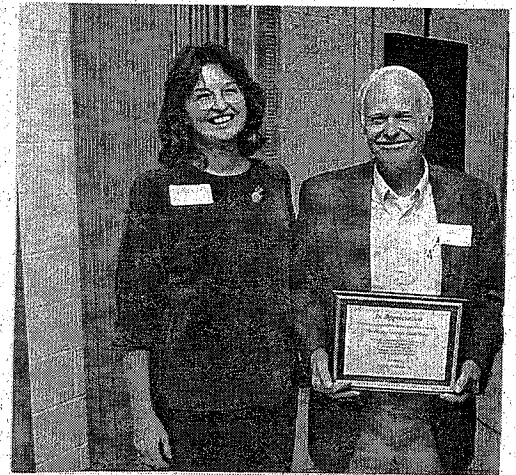
ACLT committees reported on the year's activities and future projects. Three new members were elected to fill vacancies on the Board of Directors. New Board members are Marie Bundy, a scientist with the Academy of Natural Sciences' Estuarine Research Center at Jefferson Patterson Park; Ted Graham, Water Resource Program Director, Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments; and

Pat Gates-Lynch, former U.S. Ambassador to Madagascar and the Comoros Islands, an international broadcaster for Voice of America, and a director of Corporate Affairs of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty.

A fascinating keynote address was presented by William Matuszeski, Director, Chesapeake Bay Program Office of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. We gained a new understanding and appreciation of the nature of the Chesapeake Bay and the ways in which the human activity and biological processes in the bay's watershed affect the health of the Bay.



*Keynote speaker William Matuszeski captivates ACLT members with his knowledge of the Chesapeake Bay and watershed protection.*



*Joy Bartholomew, ACLT's incoming president, congratulates retiring president Ralph Dawn on his twelve years as an officer of ACLT.*



*Senator Roy Dyson presents Ralph and Mary Dawn with a Senatorial Citation for their years of dedication to preservation of open space in Calvert County. Commissioner Hagner Reed Mister (now Deputy Secretary of Agriculture) looks on.*



*John Prouty accepts ACLT's annual Conservatopm Award on behalf of the Calvert Farmland Trust.*

## The ACLT Parkers Creek Water Quality Monitoring

The ACLT Water Quality Monitoring Program got off the ground in early spring 1998 with a wet and cold training session from Glenn Page and Ryan Davis from the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay. Additional support was provided by Carl Zimmerman of the University of Maryland Chesapeake Bay Laboratory, where the samples are analyzed. A team of ACLT volunteers learned to collect and analyze water samples from three sites on Parkers Creek. "PC3," the most upstream station, is accessed from the former sewage treatment plant in Prince Frederick. "PC2," the mid-stream station, is located at the site where old Parkers Creek Road crossed Parkers Creek. The remnants of the old wooden bridge mark the sampling station. "PC1" is at the mouth of Parkers Creek, just inside the wooden bulkhead.

The goal of the project is to build a long-term database of water quality information for Parkers Creek. These data can then be compared with other records of water quality that exist for Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries, as a means of monitoring the "health" of Parkers Creek as land use in the watershed changes over time.

Samples are collected every other week, and the team has a fantastic track record, with only one day missed due to bad weather. Collections were resumed the following week, so not much information was lost. Water analyses include nutrient concentration, suspended solids, temperature, salinity, light penetration, and chlorophyll analyses. Chlorophyll analyses provide a means of estimating the amount of phytoplankton in the water. Observations about weather, submerged aquatic vegetation, and other anecdotal information are also recorded. The team of intrepid observers is headed by Ted Graham, and supported by Art Cochran, Marie Bundy, Dave Brownlee and family, and Dan Hamilton and family.

Thanks to the Warriors Rest Committee, Carl, Ryan and Glenn, for facilitating the program. We plan to continue the program as long as volunteers and resources hold out. If anyone is interested in participating, please contact either Marie Bundy or Ted Graham.

—Marie Bundy

### News from Warrior's Rest:

As the spring season approaches at Warrior's Rest we are enthusiastic about many projects that will take place here on the property. We are steadily sending out and receiving applications for access. This season promises to bring Warrior's Rest an interesting variety of research and educational programs, along with numerous special events hosted by the ACLT.

One project that may be of interest is the ongoing Water Quality Monitoring project that is taking place throughout the Parkers Creek Watershed. Dedicated volunteers such as Ted Graham, Marie Bundy, Dave Brownlee, Art Cochran and Dan Hamilton, among others, are obtaining samples from three locations in the watershed. They are using the office Warrior's Rest for sample processing and storage. Staff at the Chesapeake Biological Laboratory in Solomons, MD, is performing the laboratory analysis. Hopefully, this project will help us to develop a baseline of water quality data that can ultimately be used to monitor the "health" of Parkers Creek.

For the faithful few that have ventured to the tenant house site and worked to uncover its lost beauty, one notable treasure has now been officially recognized. In the field to the north of the house is a lonely and gnarled old apple tree. John Zyla, a Naturalist with the Calvert County Department of Natural Resources, nominated this magnificent Apple tree (*Pyrus malus*) for the State's Big Tree Program. Warrior's Rest recently received an official certificate that announced the status of

the tree as the largest documented specimen of *Pyrus malus* currently in the State's Big Tree Program. The circumference of this champion tree is 8 feet 3 inches, with a height of 42 feet. The average crown spread of the tree is 48 feet. The Battle Creek Nature Center offers a tour of several Big Tree sites each year. Information about the tour may be obtained by contacting the Center at 410-535-5327.

—Leigh Hamilton

### 1998 Annual Hayride and Greens Sale

For our enthusiastic holiday decorators this year we once again had the greens gathering event at Warrior's Rest. Despite the cold damp weather we saw many friendly faces appear to choose and purchase a bundle of greens trimmed from the wonderful collection of the Holly arboretum. This event is always a treat and gives some of the hollies a much-needed trimming. Resident Managers, Dan and Leigh Hamilton provided warm hospitality on a chilly day. The weather was damp and many of us could be found huddled under the tent sampling Peg Niland's venison stew along with hot mulled cider provided by Leigh. Dan gave interested participants hayrides with the faithful John Deere tractor and wagon. There was a raffle of both a wreath and centerpiece made by Leigh with some of her favorite greens from Warrior's Rest. Her beautiful creations drew quite a lot attention and a considerable amount of raffle tickets were purchased. The greens sale and raffle raised \$250.00 for the Warrior's Rest Arboretum fund.

Thanks should also go to Kathy DeAngelis, Karen Lucas, Mimi Lacature, Leigh Hamilton and Bob Pfeiffer who helped to gather and bundle the greens. Karen Lucas has always had a special interest in the holly arboretum. This interest has motivated her to bring out various organizations to tour the site and propose possible plans for long term rehabilitation. Karen's dedication

may just save those holly trees after all!

Sales of Parkers Creek t-shirts and ACLT tiles were also a great success raising \$600.00. If you haven't participated in this yearly holiday event be sure to mark your calendars for next December! In the mean time, we will be scheduling monthly volunteer work efforts during March, April and May for the Holly Arboretum at Warrior's Rest. If you are interested in taking part in the ongoing efforts, watch for posted signs with work dates. Thanks again to all that participate and help to make all of these events a great success.

### ACLT GIS Program

ACLT has taken a high tech step forward by developing the "ACLT GIS." A GIS, or "geographic information system" is a computer-based system for analyzing and displaying geographic information. By combining strong mapping and data management capabilities, GIS is a powerful tool which governments, utilities, and other businesses typically use for land use planning, ana-

lyzing crime patterns, siting retail stores, supporting maintenance crews, and conducting environmental assessments. ACLT has already used its GIS for land management and publicity; plans are underway to also use GIS to support land acquisition, environmental analysis, protection of natural and cultural resources, and recreation.

GIS requires specialized software, a lot of computer processing power, and substantial amounts of geographic data. The ACLT GIS uses ArcView by ESRI. It is based on a home computer with a 300 MHz Pentium processor, 128 MB of RAM, and about 9 GB of disk storage. Most of the data was provided by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR); other data was obtained from Calvert County. This reflects the importance that both DNR and the County assigns to protecting the Parkers Creek watershed and the fact that the ACLT manages hundreds of acres of state land for DNR.

The geographic data generally covers the Parkers Creek and Governors Run watersheds. The important data "layers" now in use are: topographic maps that also show roads, streams, building outlines, and other

physical features; aerial photographs; property maps; and a variety of environmental features such as wetlands and floodplains. To date, maps have been prepared showing: parcels of land owned by ACLT; parcels of land managed by ACLT on behalf of DNR; priority parcels for future acquisition; hiking trails; and water quality monitoring sites. Mapping projects planned for the next few months include locating exotic/invasive plant species; identifying important plant and animal habitat; incorporating results of the archaeological studies; and more accurately mapping property boundaries and other natural and cultural features. Much of the site work will be done using "global positioning system" (GPS) technology that uses satellite signals to determine location of objects on the earth's surface.

The ACLT GIS is a new, but expanding system. It will provide the ACLT with high quality maps for many applications. These will help provide a clearer picture of the land owned and managed by the ACLT and assists the land trust in being better stewards of the land.

—Ted Graham

## ACLT Merchandise

### *X-Large ACLT T-Shirts Have Arrived*

The importance of the Parkers Creek watershed dictated the design of the shirt illustrated here. By popular demand, we have ordered a supply of X-Large sized shirts. \$15.00.

### *ACLT Tiles Still Available*

After a sell-out for holiday gifts, we've reordered these fantastic Parren Colery designed tiles depicting the Great Blue Heron and Parkers Creek. These 4 x 8" tiles are available with teal or light green borders for \$35.00.



Please call the ACLT office at 410-586-1570 to place your order.



# ACLT Committees – 1998 Annual Reports

## Administration/ Fundraising Committee

The Administration/Fundraising Committee, chaired by Paul Berry and Ralph Dwan, is the least visible ACLT committee, yet the one that keeps the wheels of the organization in motion. This committee assists with the day-to-day management of the ACLT business operation and seeks funding for land acquisition and operational expenses.

Administrative accomplishments in 1998 included the transition from retiring president Ralph Dwan to incoming president Joy Bartholomew and the "indoctrination" of new board members, Pat Gates Lynch, Marie Bundy, and Ted Graham. The committee provided guidance and oversight in the purchase of two new IBM-compatible computers, document conversion, and staff training. The audit of the 1997 financial statements went well and the federal return was filed on time as were all other business reports. Administrative goals for 1999 include the completion of our computer conversion, installation and use of new accounting software, and meeting the number one priority of establishing a volunteer coordinator.

Fundraising accomplishments, with the generous response to the spring and fall appeals, strong membership renewals, memorial gifts, grants, carryovers from 1997, and the sale of TDRs, raised the funds to cover an operating budget of \$134,650. With guidance and assistance from the Budget and Finance Committee, two major notes from the purchase of Double Oak Farm were paid off and the balance on the remaining loan was significantly reduced. Fundraising goals for 1999 include sound funding for the budget, developing a "Fundraising for the Future" strategy to include developing a TDR marketing plan, and creating "teams" for grants and planned giving.

## Budget and Finance Committee

Because this is the first year that the Budget & Finance (B&F) Committee has been designated as a standing committee, I thought I'd begin with a brief outline of the committee's responsibilities. On the budget side, the B&F Committee solicits budget input from the other standing committees and initially assembles a grassroots budget for the coming year with a projection of expected income that would be available to support the budget. The ACLT Board then reviews this in areas where adjustments can be made. At the November board meeting, the 1999 operating budget was adopted. The B&F Committee also develops recommendations for investing our cash assets and our endowment fund.

When I accepted the chairmanship of the B&F Committee, I felt that the most difficult challenge in 1998 and 1999 would be finding a way to meet our debt payments on the Double Oak property. In late 1997 this debt totaled nearly \$ 500,000 and most of it was coming due within two years. Although we held TDR's with nominal value in excess of that debt, finding ready buyers for these TDR's would be difficult. However, I am pleased to report that this debt management problem has become a non-issue due primarily to two extremely generous donations. As a result, the \$140,000 loan from Calvert County has been paid in full, the \$300,000 Michael note has been paid in full, and the \$200,000 loan from the Maryland Environmental Trust now has a balance of only \$28,000 and funds have been escrowed for payment in December, 1999. As a result, ACLT is in the happy position where its 1999 budget does not have to be burdened with any debt management expenses.

—Ed Greene

## Governance Committee

While the Governance Committee is not a standing committee, its purpose of easing the organization through leadership change, achieving the goals of the five-year plan, establishing personnel policies and assessing the needs of our growing organization, certainly warrants a report to our membership. Under the leadership of Joy Bartholomew in 1998 and Karen Edgecombe in 1999, the committee decided on a work plan for 1999. The highest priority will be to conduct a needs assessment with regard to staff size and office space. To date, the committee has concluded that a part-time Administrative Assistant staff position, gradually increasing to fulltime, should be added and that our present office space will be adequate for the foreseeable future with some minor remodeling.

In 1998, the Governance Committee guided the Board of Directors through its second annual priority setting process. Priorities were suggested by committees and staff in three categories: ongoing program, refinements to ongoing program and new initiatives. The top three priorities of the Board for 1999 are as follows.

### Ongoing Program

- Complete a Major Membership Drive.
- Submit a Rural Legacy application for 1999 for lands with adjacency to ACLT lands, adjacency to other protected lands, or for land elsewhere (particularly a land bridge between Parkers Creek and Battle Creek).
- Continue to offer necessary assistance to TNC/DNR in negotiations for the purchase/preservation of the remaining land on the north side of Parkers Creek.

### Refinements to ACLT's Ongoing Program

- Follow-through with volunteer coordination project.
- Plan a strategy for acquiring infill



properties in the watershed and along Parkers Creek Road adjacent to the Gravatt tract.

- Consolidate information from resource inventories in document and GIS form.

#### **New Initiative:**

- Conduct a "Needs Assessment" with regard to staff size and composition with regard to office space.
- Communicate with the public about status of north side properties (ownership, permitted uses, etc.).
- Land use policy development and implementation.

### **Land Acquisition/ Preservation Committee**

The Land Acquisition/Preservation Committee, chaired by Ewing Miller, had a busy and exciting 1998. This hard working group, teamed with the Calvert County Dept. of Planning and Zoning, Battle Creek Education Society, Calvert Farmland Trust, and Calvert County Open Space Committee, submitted a successful application to the State of Maryland's Rural Legacy Program. One and one-half (1.5) million dollars were awarded to protect land within the Battle Creek watershed, a focus of ACLT since it's charter in 1986. Primary, secondary and tertiary choices for easement acquisition were stipulated, paying particular attention to how these properties could be connected by greenways and giving primary status to properties already abutting preserved land.

The same group also applied for 1999 Rural Legacy Funding for two million dollars to protect land connecting Battle Creek and Parkers Creek. The application, submitted February 3, compliments last year's grant and, if successful, will include funding for key pieces in the Parkers Creek watershed, furthering the potential for a land bridge between the Chesapeake Bay and Patuxent River watersheds.

Other successes this year in-

cluded clearing title to the Commodore parcels purchased, certification of 57 transferable development rights, and the settlement by The Nature Conservancy (TNC) on the third parcel of the Somervell/Turner family. The latest news is that The Maryland Chapter of The Nature Conservancy, on behalf of the Department of Natural Resources, has made significant progress toward acquiring an additional 750 acres of land which adjoins ACLT, DNR, and TNC protected lands.

Between the ups and downs in land negotiations, the committee is preparing a strategy to acquire infill properties in the Parkers Creek and Governors Run watersheds, develop more specific criteria for land acquisition and prioritizing future preservation activities. It is anticipated, by the middle of 1999, ACLT will be managing it's own 810 acres and an additional 1,600 acres for the Maryland Dept. of Natural Resources. The Committee is working with the board, ACLT officers, and the Executive Director on how to reduce the growing demands on our land management committee as we continue to manage more and more land.

### **Land Management Committee**

Without a doubt, the most significant (and obvious) achievement of the Land Management Committee in 1998 was the construction of the southern-Maryland-style equipment storage barn adjacent to the parking lot at ACLT's main entrance on Scientists' Cliffs Road. Volunteer John Lewis did much of the work single-handed, from preparing plans and a materials list to installing door hinges. Fellow hunter Dick Simpkins and a few others helped John with some of the preliminaries, including harvesting locust support poles from the adjacent woods and erecting the frame. The crowning glory, in more than one sense, occurred on June 20 when approximately

seventy-five people congregated to hammer siding, attach most of the roof, play games, listen to music, eat, and in general have a really good time. Later on John and Dick finished the porch, which has already become a popular meeting and resting spot. Subsequent plans include the installation of a concrete floor and an electrical connection.

The generosity of volunteers is again something of which the land management committee can be proud. John Lewis gets the Chocolate Chip cookie award for the barn and other projects, but in addition to his 88 hours, over 2000 have been logged to date by committee members, hunters, and other volunteers. Of these, over 800 hours were devoted to the ACLT owned and managed properties north of Parkers Creek, 230-some for the new water quality monitoring program in the creek, and the rest for the Port Republic properties south of the creek.

On the north side, much time was spent on land we manage for The Nature Conservancy, including the Somervell-Turner and Ward properties. These tasks included marking boundaries, posting signs, installing gates, and, perhaps most significant, organizing the Double Oak Hunt Club. Angelo Cimini headed this project, and the resulting extremely well-organized club, complete with officers, rules, and insurance, has signed a lease with The Nature Conservancy. On ACLT's Double Oak Farm, hunters and others pitched in to improve the boardwalk, construct a visitor sign-in center, and perform serious drainage work around the house. Peg Niland has, as usual, contributed hundreds of hours to the organization over and above her job description requirements.

Most of the boundaries for our properties south of Parkers Creek have been located and marked, under the direction of Art Cochran. The Gravatt tract trails remained well-tended again this summer, thanks to many volun-

teers, particularly Pat and Ginny Murphy. Bamboo eradication was begun by a crew of ten in late May and continued almost weekly by Dave and Ellen Farr. Peter Vogt headed an effort to bundle bamboo and offer it for sale at Wentworth's, as well as participating again in Carolyn Van Mason's bittersweet project. Eagle Scout candidate Grail Schroeder, under the tutelage of John Lewis, is in the process of constructing a boardwalk across the swampy area on the Easter Trail. Land Management volunteers were the mainstay of the new Parkers Creek water quality monitoring program. Committee members also spent time on "white-collar" issues, including grant proposals and a study of trail-user impacts. A decision was made to close sections of two trails until their safety could be assured. The broader question of land use was referred to an ad-hoc committee chaired by Jim Sanders.

Not all work done under the auspices of the Land Management Committee this year was performed by volunteers. As part of the revised Forest Management Plans for the Gravatt Tracts we are obliged to begin controlling our exotic invasive vegetation, notably vines such as oriental bitter-sweet and japanese honeysuckle. Recognizing that this task is too great for volunteers, we engaged Envirens, Inc., a professional ecological restoration company. They spent two days here in August with heavy equipment and chemicals and were able to kill a lot of vines on the edges, though several years' worth of work remains.

The Gravatt properties hosted several visiting groups this year. Biotrek, Inc., an educational non-profit organization from the Baltimore area, hiked the trails after canoeing up Parkers Creek. Adolescent campers from the National Aquarium, led by the brave Dodie Ferrier, walked in the woods and took turns sawing down bamboo. The Maryland Native Plant

Society featured ACLT for a field trip as part of its recent fall conference, and the Freestate Happy Wanderers chapter of the American Volkssports Association has been measuring trails in anticipation of a walk.

—Leslie Starr

## Outreach/Membership

1998 was a great year for member volunteerism and event participation. Highlights of the year were the Barn Raising, Art Show at Calvert Marine Museum, Hayride and Greens Sale, and the Annual Auction and Chili Cookoff. Many hands pitched in to make these events a memorable time for all that participated. Through the generosity of those who contributed items for the auction, and the bidders, we raised over \$9,000! Every known variety of chili and countless side dishes and desserts lined a forty-foot buffet table.

Fifty-six new members joined ACLT this year and many participated in our hike on the old Parkers Creek Road, Earth Day, and the Parkers Creek canoe trips. One of the Outreach/Membership Service Committee goals this year is to complete a major membership drive.

This year's art show will be held at the Calvert Marine Museum during June and July. A reception date will be announced at a later time. This year's show will focus on land preservation in Calvert County and the artwork included will be done on the sites of Warrior's Rest, Battle Creek, Flag Ponds and Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum.

—Mimi Lacouture  
—Alan Wilson

## Warriors Rest Management Committee

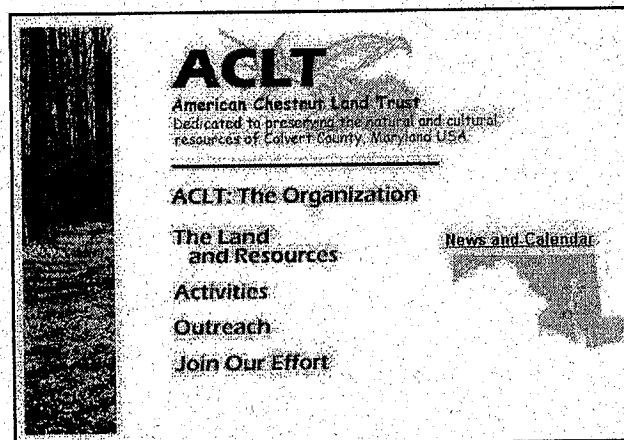
Warriors Rest represents an interesting challenge for the ACLT. The property, purchased by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources in an effort to preserve critical habitat, is only open to educational and scientific activities. In an effort to support this mission, the Committee has developed an application form that must be filed prior to any visit. If you would like to receive an application, please call 410-495-8058.

### Canoe Program

The Committee actively recruits the contribution of any canoes for use on

*(Continued on page 11)*

ACLT's Home Page – <http://www.anserc.org/aclt/>



**ACLT**  
American Chestnut Land Trust  
Dedicated to preserving the natural and cultural resources of Calvert County, Maryland USA.

**ACLT: The Organization**

- The Land and Resources
- Activities
- Outreach
- Join Our Effort

News and Calendar

**American Chestnut Land Trust, Inc.**  
**Treasurer's Report for 1998 (Unaudited)**

(Continued from page 10)

Parkers Creek. Over the winter a canoe rack will be constructed at the beach house. *If you would like to contribute a canoe, please take advantage of this opportunity for a tax-exempt contribution.*

**Holly Grove**

Under the direction of Karen Lucas, a monthly work party is being formed to make improvements to the Holly Grove. Karen recently hosted the local chapter of the Holly Society and they were enthralled with the Warrior's Rest grove. They identified many of the trees, took cuttings to identify which specimens would be the easiest to root, and many have offered to come back to work. A lecture and demonstration on pruning will be held in late March at the National Arboretum. Anyone wishing to attend, or joining the "Holly Helpers", should contact Karen at 703-759-5547 or at 410-586-0733.

**Studies**

The Battle Creek Nature Center has been involved in developing educational activities on the property that will help participants understand the value of submerged aquatic grasses, wood duck habitat and the value of wetlands. Contact Andy Brown at the Nature Center for further information (410-535-5327).

**Committee Participation**

If you would like to join us in our efforts in maintaining this property with a limited and creative budget, please contact Bob Pfeiffer at 410-586-0683.

—Bob Pfeiffer

| <i>ACLT Expenditures</i>              |                   |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Administration/Fundraising:</b>    |                   |
| Accounting                            | 3,342.00          |
| Bank Charges                          | 139.46            |
| Equipment Repair                      | 183.81            |
| Fundraising                           | 240.37            |
| Insurance                             | 1,890.19          |
| Miscellaneous                         | 420.54            |
| Occupancy(Office)                     | 361.99            |
| Postage/Shipping                      | 543.97            |
| Salary/Benefits                       | 12,990.98         |
| Supplies                              | 1,093.96          |
| Telephone                             | 224.85            |
| Subtotal                              | 21,432.12         |
| <b>Land Acquisition/Preservation:</b> |                   |
| Appraisals/Surveys                    | 0.00              |
| Committee Materials                   | 380.89            |
| Legal                                 | 44.00             |
| Occupancy(Office)                     | 186.42            |
| Salary/Benefits                       | 23,732.45         |
| Taxes                                 | 1,029.06          |
| Telephone                             | 842.23            |
| Double Oak Center                     | 2,194.48          |
| Subtotal                              | 28,409.53         |
| <b>Land Management:</b>               |                   |
| Boundary Surveys                      | 299.00            |
| Contract Services                     | 0.00              |
| Equipment Operat/Maint.               | 392.90            |
| Equipment/Other Purchases             | 2,146.36          |
| Forestry Management                   | 2,479.88          |
| Insurance                             | 944.98            |
| Occupancy(Office)                     | 360.66            |
| Postage/Supplies                      | 845.55            |
| Salary/Benefits                       | 4,746.56          |
| Telephone                             | 259.26            |
| Subtotal                              | 12,475.15         |
| <b>Outreach/Member Service:</b>       |                   |
| Dues                                  | 1,743.75          |
| Meetings/Training                     | 3,503.53          |
| Cost of Merchandise                   | 1,733.41          |
| Occupancy(Office)                     | 185.75            |
| Insurance                             | 944.97            |
| Outreach                              | 1,757.77          |
| Postage/Supplies                      | 1,545.75          |
| Printing/Publications                 | 2,143.68          |
| Salary/Benefits                       | 10,367.45         |
| Telephone                             | 570.87            |
| Subtotal                              | 24,496.93         |
| <b>Operating Expenditures:</b>        | <b>86,813.73</b>  |
| Capital Purchases (Computers)         | 3,073.00          |
| Refund                                | 434.00            |
| Double Oak Loan Repayment             | 125,081.30        |
| Donation, Eastern Shore Trust         | 500.00            |
| Parkers Creek Survey (MHT)            | 26,267.61         |
| Warrior's Rest Management             | 3,003.76          |
| <b>Total Expenditures:</b>            | <b>245,173.40</b> |

| <i>ACLT Receipts</i>        |                   |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Non-Designated:</b>      |                   |
| Memberships                 | 17,890.50         |
|                             | 17,890.50         |
| Contributions               | 3,654.15          |
| Spring Appeal               | 12,293.67         |
| Fall Appeal                 | 9,816.74          |
| Grants--First St. Paul      | 20,000.00         |
| Environmental Fund for MD.  | 2,480.33          |
| Auction                     | 9,257.50          |
| Memorial Funds              | 3,200.00          |
| Sales of Merchandise        | 3,540.20          |
| Services Rendered           | 10.00             |
| Reimbursements              | 1,360.74          |
| Refunds                     | 358.76            |
| Interest                    | 8,373.50          |
| Subtotal                    | 92,236.09         |
| <b>Designated:</b>          |                   |
| Land Acquis.--General       | 2,050.00          |
| Land Acquis.--Double Oak    | 8,225.00          |
| Plum Point Contributions    | 745.50            |
| Sale of TDRs                | 134,240.00        |
| Endowment Funds Received    | 4,634.39          |
| Interest on Endowment       | 941.30            |
| Warrior's Rest Account      | 5,685.00          |
| Parkers Creek Survey (MHT)  | 10,000.00         |
| Subtotal                    | 166,521.19        |
| <b>Total Receipts:</b>      | <b>258,757.28</b> |
| <b>Land Mgt. Endowment*</b> | <b>16,252.04</b>  |
| Carry over from 1997:       | 127,125.18        |
| <b>Total Funds in 1998:</b> | <b>402,134.50</b> |
| Less expenditures:          | (245,173.40)      |
| <b>Balance to 1999:</b>     | <b>156,961.10</b> |

\* 1998 receipts will be added.

Paul L. Berry, Treasurer



## 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: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Land Saver - \$35.00

\_\_\_\_ Land Protector - \$60.00

\_\_\_\_ Land Conservator - \$150.00

\_\_\_\_ Habitat Protector - \$500.00

\_\_\_\_ Trustee of Land - \$1000.00

\_\_\_\_ Sustaining (Lifetime) - \$2500.00

\_\_\_\_ Corporate - \$150.00

\_\_\_\_ Youth Gift Memberships - *To encourage youth involvement with the environment, memberships will be given to eligible youth in the community. Contact ACLT office for further information.*

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 24**

Dr. & Mrs. David F. Farr  
4512 Tonquil Place  
Beltsville, MD 20705