

GLT

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE GENESEE LAND TRUST

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GLT MISSION STATEMENT THE GENESEE LAND TRUST PRESERVES AND PROTECTS LAND WITHIN THE GREATER ROCHESTER AREA, INCLUDING WATERWAYS, WETLANDS, FARMLAND, OPEN SPACE, FISH AND WILDLIFE HABITAT, AND SCENIC OR RECREATIONAL AREAS. THE TRUST DOES SO BY ACQUIRING PROPERTY OR DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS AND BY ASSISTING GOVERNMENT AGENCIES, INDIVIDUALS, AND PRIVATE GROUPS WITH THEIR OWN LAND PROTECTION EFFORTS. THE TRUST IS A TAX-EXEMPT, NOT-FOR-PROFIT ORGANIZATION SUPPORTED BY MEMBERSHIP FEES, GRANTS, AND OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS. DONATIONS TO THE GENESEE LAND TRUST ARE TAX-DEDUCTIBLE.

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LAND PROTECTION IN NATIONAL PERSPECTIVE

A visit to the national gathering of land trusts can be both reassuring and daunting, as GLT President Robert Kraus discovered in October when he attended the Land Trust Alliance Rally in Austin, Texas.

Reassuring, “because we in the Genesee Land Trust can see how large a movement we’re part of,” Kraus said. There are now more than 1,600 local and regional land trusts of all shapes and sizes across the country—four times the number of such organizations 20 years ago. And those organizations protect more than 6.2 million acres of land, an area twice the size of Connecticut. (In New York, there are 72 land trusts protecting more than 552,000 acres of open space.)

Daunting, though, in terms of seeing the wonderful examples of other trusts and what can be done. The Vermont Land Trust, for example, has protected a full 8 percent of private lands in the state. “But on the other side of the coin is the fact that more than two million acres of land across the country are lost to development each year, which sets a challenge for all of us,” Kraus said.

The Land Trust Alliance’s president, Rand Wentworth, defined a number of current challenges for the 1,800 attendees. Among them:

- To increase the pace of land protection. “The land we save over the next 20 years will determine the character of the American landscape for all time,” Wentworth said.
- For land trusts to make sure they are being strategic in what they preserve, and how they develop their organizations. The goal now is to “build strong civic institutions that will stand the test of time,” he said.
- To learn, in these times, to accomplish more with less.
- To “focus on landscape scale initiatives” with the greatest impact.

“It was clear to me that GLT is better organized and more productive than some land trusts, but of course smaller and with fewer resources than others,” Kraus said. “The most important thing, in any case, is that we fit GLT to the needs and scale of the Greater Rochester area. We’ll continue to do just that in part by listening carefully to our local partners in environmental and land preservation, and by doing some strategic thinking.

“Hopefully, land trusts, conservation easements and related concepts are much more familiar to everyone than they were even a decade ago,” he said. “This is the time to reach out to even more supporters of Rochester’s quality of life, who recognize that our land preservation efforts make a difference.” ■



HSBC's Regional VP Joan Dallis and Regional President Kenneth Bell present the HSBC foundation's gift (see below) to GLT President Robert Kraus and Executive Director Gay Mills.

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THE GENESEE LAND TRUST EXTENDS A HEARTFELT THANK YOU TO . . .

Donna Mummery, Ann Baker, Elthea King, and Lawrence and Joanne Garfield for mailing help...**Rachel and Bill Edwards** for hosting a Donor Appreciation Party and **Anna Sears and Carolyn Hunt** for assisting...**Connie Ehindero, Andy Smith, Emily Edwards, Dick Freitas, Joan Poor and Suzanne Wheatcraft** for helping out with the Photo Contest...**Kathy Spencer** for her ongoing involvement with strategic planning...**Carolyn Hunt** for very successful grant writing...**Laurie Maynard, Ginny DiRisio and Robert Kraus** for newsletter articles and photos...**John Morelli** for an informative presentation on the Land Trust Alliance Rally...**Laura Taczak of Eric Mower Associates**, for publicity help...**Tim Fitzgerald of Harris Beach LLP** for legal assistance...and **Jerry Cosgrove of the American Farmland Trust** for assistance with the Macedon farmland protection project.

IN HONOR OF . . .

What better way to honor someone than by making a gift in his/her name to support the permanent protection of natural lands in the Greater Rochester area?

We are grateful for a Christmas gift from **Bea and Gene Dewey** to **Jim and Jean Barlow**.

RECYCLE YOUR CAR

Our thanks to **Suzanne and Andy Wheatcraft** for designating GLT as the recipient of a charitable donation from the sale of their used car. If you would like information on how you can donate your old car to GLT, please call Cindy at 381-7310.

HSBC FOUNDATION GRANT TO BENEFIT GLT

A \$10,000 grant from HSBC Bank USA's foundation, HSBC in the Community (USA) Inc., will support the Genesee Land Trust's effort to improve its ability to document, monitor and steward the 1,000 acres of land it protects.

"Since the Genesee Land Trust commits to seeing that those properties remain open forever, our long-term land management and monitoring efforts are critical to our success," said Trust President Robert Kraus. "From the initial baseline documentation and mapping, we are planning for our permanent responsibility."

HSBC's grant will allow the Trust to update and expand its computer capabilities that support its stewardship program and its efforts to protect additional lands in Greater Rochester.

"As an organization committed to both the environment and Rochester, this grant was a perfect fit for HSBC," said Kenneth D. Bell, Rochester regional president for HSBC Bank USA. "We are proud to support the important work the Genesee Land Trust is doing to contribute to the quality of life in Rochester."

HSBC has undertaken worldwide efforts to conserve and improve the environment. In the United States, its foundation, HSBC in the Community (USA) Inc., focuses primarily on education and the environment. The bank, which has been serving customers in New York for more than 150 years, has 47 branches in the Rochester area. ■

WHAT'S THE SCORE?

1,054 ACRES PROTECTED

Eight preserves owned and managed by Genesee Land Trust. For maps/directions, contact the Land Trust at 381-7310.

293 acres protected by conservation easements granted to Genesee Land Trust. (These do not have public access.)

Preservation Partnerships with the Town of Brighton (Corbett's Glen Nature Park) and the Town of Victor (Lehigh Crossing Park).



Gay Mills



Jamie Spiller

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Members,

Today, I had a chance to see the entries in Genesee Land Trust's first photo contest, "Within Nature." The beautiful images from all across the Genesee region remind me of my experience working with land and landowners in our community.

Our community is blessed with natural and scenic beauty, with healthy habitats and strong farming communities that help make Rochester "Made for Living." It is not a dramatic beauty, but an unassuming beauty overlooked, in some cases, by many. How often have I remarked to myself as I tramped across a summer meadow full of butterflies, or wandered along an icy stream's banks, that I would not have guessed that such an extraordinary beauty existed right in our backyard.

The photos brought me to many of the special places in our region; some are of the local parks and Genesee Land Trust preserves, lands that are protected forever. But many are just part of a woodlot, a farm, an open marsh, places that are loved but have uncertain futures.

The images "within nature" will stay with me this year as we work to protect the variety and wealth of special open space in our community.

Gay Mills

MEET . . . JAMIE SPILLER

From his devotion to rock climbing as a youth in Montclair, N.J., one might have guessed that the "great outdoors" would be transformative, both in body and mind, for GLT board member Jamie Spiller.

A faculty member in SUNY College at Brockport's history department, Spiller teaches environmental history, cultural history, and the history of science and technology.

Hometown rock climbing led to more extended climbing expeditions out West. Those, in turn, led to his decision to enroll in the National Outdoor Leadership School (NOLS) in Lander, Wyo. Originally the training center for Outward Bound instructors, NOLS produces "competent, environmentally sensitive wilderness leaders with techniques and the people skills to lead expeditions," Spiller explained. For 12 years, he served on the NOLS summer instructional faculty, and has himself led many mountaineering expeditions in the United States and abroad.

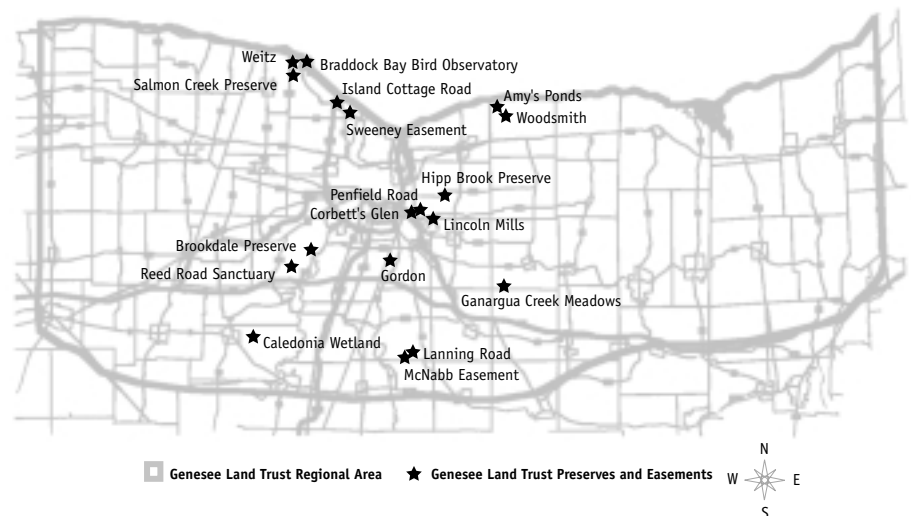
Environment issues have emerged as an intellectual passion as well. With a bachelor's degree from Rutgers, and master's and Ph.D. degrees in American history from the University of Wisconsin at Madison, Spiller now brings environmental concerns, from a historical and cultural point of view, into the classroom. At Brockport, he teaches how the environment—both "natural" and as constructed by humans—has influenced the course of history. "Urban history," for example, closely examines the way man-made environments limit and create opportunities for human activity. Spiller also has conducted significant research into the cultural premises behind Cold War scientific explorations in more exotic environments: outer space and Antarctica.

Joining the Genesee Land Trust Board of Directors within the past year represents just the latest phase in his personal and professional interests. "I want to be involved in local environmental issues beyond the classroom," he said.

"I grew up in an area of New Jersey that is now 'built out'; it has already passed through a stage of development that Rochester and so many areas are poised to enter," he said. "I think that sprawl is the number one environmental issue in the U.S. and other parts of the world today. And out of that spring so many associated environmental questions.

"GLT's Board is a group of sincere and committed people working together to try to protect a common natural heritage in the Rochester area, and one that can be lost permanently. I believe that the preservation of open space—as part of our local heritage—too often gets short shrift in the stampede for economic development." ■

WHAT AREA DOES GLT SERVE?



In a review of strategic plans, GLT's Board of Directors has reaffirmed the geographic focus of its land protection efforts, as reflected in this map—Monroe and Wayne counties, as well as contiguous sections of adjoining counties. The Board now is revising portions of a strategic plan adopted in 2000. ■



Paxton Maffett, Carol Vine and Gail Maffett look over silent auction items.



Auction volunteers Kyle Kindle and Elizabeth Von Bacho relax for a minute.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS . . .

Michael Kopicki, Tris Downer, Susann Brown, Earl Conee, Ruth M. Estes, Jonathan Foster, Susan Lander, Judy Murray, Peter Oddleifson and Kay Wallace, Geoff Poor and Joan Clawson, Paula Smith, Scott and Teresa Wolcott.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THE MANY VOLUNTEERS WHO MADE THE EARTH AND ARTS AUCTION POSSIBLE:

Ann Baker, Pat Rogers Buehlman, Becky DeMarco, Beth Dewey, Ginny Hammond DiRisio, Carrie Gluckman, Jyl Graney, Bob Haggett, Bob and Denise Heischman, Lori Bryce, Kyle Kindle, Elthea King, Debra McHargue, William McIlvride, John Morelli, Geoff Poor, Joyce Rivers, Leslie Stevenson, June Summers, Betsy Taylor, Thomas Tette, Elizabeth Von Bacho, Amy Walsh and Suzanne Wheatcraft.

GENESEE LAND TRUST IS LOOKING FOR MORE OPEN SPACE, OFFICE SPACE THAT IS.

If you know of a two-room office that may be available, please call Gay Mills at 381-7310.

EARTH & ART AUCTION SEES 10 PERCENT HIKE IN PROCEEDS

On a post-Halloween eve, GLT's seventh annual Earth & Art Auction at the Historic Lower Mill in Honeoye Falls met with solid success—drawing more than 200 people and raising 10 percent more than last year.

The popular event offered a winning mixture of wine and gourmet food provided by the host of the event, Juniper Beans Coffeehouse and Eatery, an art exhibit featuring local landscapes and donated paintings, photographs, services, food and decorative items. Provoking hours of "silent" bidding—sometimes fiercely competitive—and raucous contention over pieces sold by auctioneer Geoff Poor, the gathering inspired generous results. Attention getters included a buffalo skull (complete with sun-bleached horns), a sought-after weekend at GLT board member Tom Frey's cottage, and naturalist author/photographer Elinor Osborn's signed book and EPA award-winning bird photograph.

"The generous artists and community members who donated their work, household items and services have helped GLT continue its land-preservation efforts," said Cindy Kindle, assistant director and event organizer. "Our sponsors—Amica, M&T Bank, Southco, Peacock Oriental Antique Museum and Heluva Good Quality Foods—and our partner, the Mill Art Center & Gallery, are equally crucial to making the event a success." ■

MANY THANKS TO OUR AUCTION DONORS . . .

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|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| A Different Point of View | Galyan's | New Image |
| A-Plus Gas Station, | George Eastman House | Onnie's Closet |
| Honeoye Falls | Grassroots | Annie Petracca O'Reilly |
| Abundance Cooperative Market | Harborview Inn | Elinor Osborn |
| Carol Acquilano | Lisa Havens | Peacock Oriental Museum |
| Lynn and Gary Albright | Don Henderson and Peter Swift | Philip Bliss Studio |
| The Art Store | Home Video Center | Kim Pier |
| Ann Baker | House Doctor | Jim Pierson/Fred Dewey |
| Barks and Bubbles | Hunt Hollow Ski Club | Pittsford Pub |
| Jean Batte | Hyatt Regency Rochester | Premier Pastry |
| The Bird House | Irondequoit Inn | Pride Hardware and Framing |
| Brio Mediterranean Bistro | Jane's Herb Farm | Donna Privitera |
| Loretta Brown | Jillian's Entertainment | Quality Reflections Studio |
| Susan Brown | Jimmy's Garage | Remington's |
| Canandaigua National Bank | Joey B's | Ricar Supermarkets |
| and Trust Co. | Joseph's Wallpaper Outlet | Richardson's Canal House |
| Diane and Roger Cass | Rebecca Kraai | Brad Rivers |
| Ciao! Italian Café | Lakeville Video | Joyce Rivers |
| The Clark House | Landmark Society of Western | Kim Rivers-Van Ness |
| Colonial Liquors | New York | Rochester Museum and |
| Terry Costich | Lands' End Inlet | Science Center |
| Crystal Barn | Liberty Cottage | Rochester Philharmonic |
| Daisy Flour Mill | Lincoln Hill Inn | Orchestra |
| Nancy Watson Dean | Little Theatre | Rock Ventures |
| Rebecca and Roger DeMarco | The Lodge at Woodcliff | Romano's Macaroni Grill |
| Dibella's Old Fashioned | Paxton Maffett | Rudy's Oven |
| Submarines | Suzanne Manchester, Special | Scott's Photo |
| Dinosaur Bar-B-Que | Touch Massage Therapy | Seven Springs Maple Syrup |
| Don Pablos | Mantegna Furniture | Simply Hair |
| Earth and Arts Center Faculty | Rick Marx | Alan Singer |
| Eastman Kodak Co. | Max of Eastman Place | Janet Buchanan Smith |
| Edwards Restaurant | Bill McIlvride | Jamie Spiller |
| Shannon Elliott | Michael Kopicki Apiaries | Starbuck's |
| Raksha Elmer | Montana Mills | Susan Tallon Designs |
| Dick Flaherty | John Morelli | Jackie Swift and Elthea King |
| Nancy Flaherty | David Mundie | Tichenor Furniture Services, |
| The Flower Mill Inc. | My Own Shop | Honeoye Falls |
| Thomas Frey and | The National Bank of Geneva | Weider's Pro Hardware |
| Jacqueline Cady | Nature Country | James P. Yockel |
| | | William Young |



VOLUNTEER PICNIC

Some 35 people (including GLT board member Tom Tette, and his sons Tommy and Anthony) attended a volunteer picnic Sept. 20. Thanks to **Harry Sealfon** and **Kathy Gilda** for helping out, and to **Gay Mills** for hosting it.

COMING EVENTS

Gardenscape 2003: Thursday through Sunday, March 20-23, 2003. Greater Rochester's 12th Annual Flower & Garden Show at the Dome Center, Henrietta. Volunteer for a shift at the GLT information booth and you will get free admission to this wonderful flower show! Call Cindy for the volunteer schedule, 381-7310.

Trail Work Party: Saturday, April 26, 2003, 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Come out to the Hipp Brook Preserve in Penfield and help us with our spring cleaning! Meet at the end of Brougham Drive, which runs west off Jackson Road just south of Atlantic. Leader: Elinor Osborn.

Birding Field Trip With Rochester Birding Association: Saturday, May 11, 2003, 7:30 a.m. Amy's Ponds and Woodsmith (GLT Conservation Easements). Join GLT with the Rochester Birding Association at the private property of Janet Smith for spring migrants, early nesters and waterfowl. With excellent trails, these 190 acres are a wonderful wildlife sanctuary, open only by special arrangement. Meet at 484 Lake Road, Ontario, N.Y. Take Rt. 104 east to County Line Road. Go north until it ends and turn right onto Lake Road. Park in her driveway, which is on the south side of Lake Road. Leader: Bob Spahn 671-5690.

Native Plant Sale: Saturday, May 17, 2003, 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Brighton Town Hall, 2300 Elmwood Ave. Back for its second year! Sign up now to help out. Call 381-7310.

Open House at Braddock Bay Bird Observatory: Sunday, May 18, 2003, 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. Join GLT at the BBBO station at Genesee Land Trust's Kaiser-Manitou Beach Bird Banding Station. You will be able to observe migratory birds as they are banded and learn about the important research being conducted there. Children will love it! Take the Ontario State Parkway west. Exit at Manitou Beach Road and go north. Follow Manitou Beach Road to where it bears left and becomes Braddocks Ave. Follow Braddocks Ave. to the end. Watch for signs.

The Garden Habitat Tour: June 2003 (date TBD). GLT's first tour of backyard habitat gardens. Get great ideas for enhancing the wildlife habitat features of your yard. Call 381-7310 now to help out on the committee. This will be a huge event!

For more information on any of these events, call Cindy at 381-7310.

BECOME A MEMBER!

YES, I'd like to preserve wildlife habitat, farmland, and scenic vistas in the Greater Rochester area!

I've enclosed a check made out to Genesee Land Trust
 Please charge my Visa/MasterCard (circle one) \$ _____

Card # _____ Exp. Date _____

Signature _____

Please send me:

- Information on volunteer opportunities.
- Information on how to protect my land.

- \$1,000+
- \$500 - 999
- \$250 - 499
- \$100 - 249
- \$50 - 99
- \$25 - 49

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

Your gift is deductible to the full extent of the law. Member benefits include our quarterly newsletter, invitations to special events, and a GLT decal.

Mail to: GLT, P.O. Box 18405, Rochester, NY 14618. THANK YOU!

A THANK YOU FOR THE SPECIAL APPEAL

Thank you to all who responded generously to Genesee Land Trust's first special year-end appeal. Your commitment to protecting beautiful land in our region will be appreciated for years to come. An especially warm thank you to the designer of the special appeal, Jennifer Wagner, and to Janet Smith, artist and conservation easement donor, for the use of her painting (detail below). ■





GENESEE LAND TRUST

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Rochester, NY 14618

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Kirstin Flass with "Untitled," her Best of Show winning photograph from the GLT's "Within Nature" photography contest.

PHOTO CONTEST DRAWS MORE THAN 100 ENTRIES

Kirstin Flass enjoys "finding the beauty in everyday things" with her camera. Her black-and-white photo of tracks in mud, "Untitled," won Best of Show in GLT's "Within Nature" photo contest. Thank you to our sponsors Spectrum Gallery and City Frame, and to GLT Board member Rachel Edwards and her husband, Bill, for coordinating this first-time event for GLT.

Congratulations go to the six Excellence Award winners: Dawn DeRoo for Delicate Descent, Connie Ehindero for Ore Beds, Clayton Gehring for Poppy, Micah Pastore for The River, Gene Schaible for Oak Tree in Fog, and Ingrid Stuckenberg for Spring. Honorable Mention Awards went to Jane Hopkins for Nature's Balance and Monika Ueffinger for Sunset.

Thanks to judges Stephanie Albanese, Willie Osterman and Pat Wilder, who were faced with the difficult task of paring 115 submissions down to 45, and to businesses that contributed awards for the winning photograph: Lumiere Photo, City Frame, Wink Photo, The Bird House, Park Avenue Photo, Lori's Natural Foods, Target (Penfield), Starbucks (Monroe Avenue), Mark Greene of Hopkins Farm, Portico South and The King & I.

And a special thanks to all of the photographers who shared their "Within Nature" images: Laura Arney, Judy Babinski, Stephany Britton, Sandra Carbone, Mark Carpenter, Roger Cass, Robert Cassie, Albert Craig, Archie Curry, Fred Daniell, Dawn DeRoo, Ken Dodgson, Emily Edwards, Connie Ehindero, Suzanne El Rayess, Diane England, Trude Fitelson, Kirstin Flass, Jon Foster, Sandra Frankel, John Funt, Clayton Gehring, Stephen Gonzalez, Jane Hopkins, Lynda Howland, Glenn Huels, Robert Jennette, Marian Johanknecht, David Kotok, Susan Lander, Dayle Benson Lavine, Jean McCreary, Avraham Michaeli, Theresa Miller, Ron Mitchell, Joseph Moroz, Audrey Newcomb, Daniel Nolan, John O'Neill, Claire Olson, Micah Pastore, Stephen Pete, Brian Peterson, Pat Rogers Buehlman, Gene Schaible, Leslie Schiff, Marilyn Schindler, Vicki Schwartz, John Sekol, Andrew Smith, Ingrid Stuckenberg, Courtney Thibaudeau, Fred Trumbore, Monika Ueffinger, Charles Vorndram, Susan Weiss and Christine Wylam. ■