

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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GLT SECURES CHILI BIRD REFUGE

More than 50 years ago, Allan Klonick, an avid birdwatcher, first discovered the treasure that was hidden in a wooded swamp area, located between Ballantyne and Morgan Roads in the town of Chili.

"My birding friends and I always gravitated to this spot because it could attract 35 to 50 different kinds of birds from the spring through the summer and into the fall," said Klonick. He, along with friends, purchased this 111-acre parcel in 1949 and formed the corporation Bird Refuges, Inc. to manage the refuge. "This place has brought me a lot of joy. I've spotted Indigo Buntings, Scarlet Tanagers and Baltimore Orioles there."



After purchasing Reed Road Sanctuary in 1949 for \$1,000, Klonick and Bird Refuges led field trips to the Sanctuary and have kept detailed records of the birds observed there.

"I'm not going to last forever, and I wanted to be sure that people would continue to use, not abuse, this special place," Klonick said. As the last surviving member of Bird Refuges, Klonick, along with members of the Genesee Ornithological Society (the parent organization for Bird Refuges), decided to turn to the Genesee Land Trust for assistance. Klonick contacted Roger Cass, a founding board member of the Trust and fellow birder, to discuss the future of the properties protected by Bird Refuges.

Now the Reed Road Sanctuary has been officially transferred to GLT for preservation in perpetuity. "We are very excited to work with the Genesee Ornithological Society to continue the preservation work of Allan and his colleagues," Cass said. "They were true pioneers in protecting bird habitat, and Genesee Land Trust is proud to continue in that tradition—in Chili and across the Rochester region."

A second adjacent 20-acre parcel was simultaneously transferred from Burrough's Audubon. GLT will develop a management plan for the entire property and, eventually, improve the trails.

"GLT has the same objective that we've always had, to protect lands for conservation," said Klonick. "We can be sure now that the wildflowers will not be trampled upon, the trees will not be destroyed, and new trails will be developed there when needed." ■



In search of the "life butterfly"



Genesee Land Trust

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

Elinor Osborn and **Carol and Dave Southby** for leading the Butterfly Hike at Ganargua Creek Meadow . . . all the **Park Avenue volunteers** (see article) . . . **Elsa Shaefer** for leading a hike at Hipp Brook . . . **Carolyn Hunt** for valuable advice to the Development Committee . . . **Karen Siegelman**, **Barry Bermudez**, **Laurie Maynard**, and **Amy Walsh** for writing articles . . . **Camp Arrowhead** of the Southeast YMCA for trail help at Ganargua Creek Meadow . . . **Lee Caine** for original artwork . . . **Jennifer Wagner** from the Verdi Group and **Elinor Osborn** for assistance with the GLT display . . . **Rick Marx**, **Suzanne Wheatcraft**, and **Vince Dick** for their expertise . . . **Tom Frey** for his commitment to the urban trail . . . **Peter Woods** at ESL Federal Credit Union and **Tim Fitzgerald** at Harris Beach and Wilcox, LLP, **Donna Mummery** for office work and **Scott Copey** for GIS maps. . . **Neal** and **Ann McNabb** for hosting the Ice Cream Social . . . **Elinor Osborn**, **Don Traver**, **Rachel Edwards**, and **Silandara Bartlett** for photos.

IN HONOR OF . . .

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

We are grateful for the gifts from: **Diane and Roger Cass** honoring **Rick Marx** for a spectacular breakfast and birding tour that they won at last year's Earth & Art Auction . . . **James and Holli Budd** in honor of a very valued member of our Board of Directors, **Leslie Stevenson** . . . **Iris Miller** in honor of her husband, **Luther Miller**, on their 46th wedding anniversary . . . **Luther Miller** in honor of his wife, **Iris Miller** on their 46th wedding anniversary . . . **James and Nancy MacWhinney** in honor of **Neal and Ann McNabb's** wedding anniversary.

YOUR CAR'S BEST PAY-OFF

Our thanks to **John and Ruth Armbruster**, **Tom and Sue Murphy**, and **Carroll Manning** for designating GLT as the recipient of a charitable donation from the sale of their used cars. If you would like information on how you can donate your old car to GLT (and receive a charitable tax deduction) please call Cindy Kindle at 381-7310.

THE JOY OF BUTTERFLIES

Why would dozens of people from all walks of life take to open fields on a hot summer day, with no sporting event, suburban pool, or air-conditioned mall in sight?

Could it be the joy of smelling mint underfoot, wading waist-high in Queen Anne's Lace, wildflowers, and thistle; the amazement of discovering coyote droppings, spotting Red Dragonflies and ebony jewel-winged creatures mating in a quiet brook bordering the field?

Perhaps the passion to find a "life butterfly" drove the other pleasures of the GLT Butterfly Hike held Aug. 10 at Ganargua Creek Meadow Preserve in Macedon. Led by Rochester Butterfly Club member Elinor Osborn, a merry band of nearly 30 souls exclaimed over Wood Nymphs, Cabbage Whites and Painted Ladies as they began their morning trek.

"Why not plant your whole yard full of wildlife plants like these—make a butterfly and bird habitat with berries for birds and bushes for butterflies?" Distracted momentarily by someone spotting a Monarch, Osborn went on to say, "It's great for people to see the Trust properties and know what's there."

Beginning in a meadow carpeted with plush green "bed straw," butterfly experts like Carol Southby and Bill McCleary helped the group identify Viceroy's, Silver-spotted Skippers, Great Spangled Fritillaries, and Wood Nymphs. Noting that many of the butterflies perch "just to get warm," Southby made it clear that a third of butterflies use grasses and sedges to lay eggs. "Fields aren't just empty spaces," as some developers might have people believe, she said.

Acquainting the community with marvels of meadow life makes activities like the Butterfly Walk all worthwhile, noted Andy Wheatcraft, longtime GLT member. "You look at events like this that get people out to enjoy it—to know that this land will never be developed; it gives us an escape, to be able to forget about things for awhile."

But the butterfly "pros" would probably say this event, in particular, offered them one of those supreme moments—when a rare Meadow Fritillary flitted by. "I've seen a 'life butterfly!'" exclaimed more than one meadow trekker at the end of the 92-degree walk. ■



Gay Mills



Board member
Suzanne Wheatcraft
staffing the Park
Avenue booth for GLT

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Members:

1,000 acres under protection!

With the acquisition of the Reed Road Sanctuary, our land trust has protected more than 1,000 acres—what a huge accomplishment! What a cause for celebration!

Our celebration is most definitely your celebration—we have all pulled together to make a difference in our community by preserving precious open space.

For the land trust to continue to thrive and to protect the next 1,000 acres...and more...we count on your financial support. In the next month, Genesee Land Trust will be sending out its first year-end annual appeal to you, our best supporters. In a time of unsettling news—local, national, and international—you can be confident that we will work hard to protect a vital element of our region's future—a healthy and scenic environment. A gift from you will help to make the next 1,000 acres possible!

Genesee Land Trust is the local land trust working throughout the Rochester region to pull together individuals, groups, and governments to protect our land. As members, you are the key to our strength.

1,000 acres under protection!

A big milestone—but only a small step for our community as it sees urban and suburban sprawl chewing up acre after acre, threatening the unique habitats and the more commonplace working landscapes that are the foundation of a healthy and scenic environment.

Please consider a year-end gift to Genesee Land Trust when you receive our appeal. We rely on the financial support of many individuals who care about the environmental health of their community. We hope to be able to count on you this year.

1,000 acres. Thank you!

PARK AVENUE FESTIVAL

Genesee Land Trust participated in the 26th annual Park Avenue Festival Aug. 3 and 4 with an information booth. Jennifer Wagner from the Verdi Group generously created a wonderful new display, which includes many beautiful photographs of our properties taken by volunteer Elinor Osborn.

Our thanks to those who staffed our booth and cheerfully endured hot weather, difficult parking, and loud music to get the word out about all the good work GLT is doing in our community: Ann Baker, Silandara Bartlett, Connie Ehindero, Warren Elvin, Grant Fish, Dick Freitas, Paula and Marshall Henry, Kyle Kindler, Elthea King, June Summers, Tom Tette, Elizabeth Von Bacho, and Suzanne Wheatcraft. Thanks also to the Springout Group and the City of Rochester for donating the space to us. ■

GLT FINANCIAL SUMMARY AND HIGHLIGHTS

FOR THE YEARS ENDING MARCH 31, 2002 AND 2001 (UNAUDITED)

	3/31/02	3/31/01
SUPPORT & REVENUE		
Dues, Contributions	\$ 71,883	\$ 134,182
Grants	1,150	7,000
In-Kind Land Donations	6,000	12,854
*In-Kind Services	110,755	*
Investment Income	8,066	4,966
TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUE	\$ 197,854	\$ 159,002
EXPENSES		
Payroll & Benefits	\$ 39,343	\$ 23,678
Land Acquisition & Management	1,870	1,220
*In-Kind Land Acquisition & Management	32,475	*
Education & Resource Materials	4,259	3,717
General & Administrative	13,823	8,358
Membership Development & Services	14,121	16,456
*In-Kind Advertising	78,280	*
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 184,172	\$ 53,429
NET INCOME	\$ 13,682	\$ 105,573
* Quantified for first time in 2002		
BALANCE SHEET SUMMARY		
Operating Funds	\$ 18,084	\$ 33,572
Land Protection Fund*	154,557	140,190
Stewardship Funds**	151,575	142,866
Joseph Taylor Memorial Fund***	3,482	3,482
Equipment (less accumulated depreciation)	658	1,315
Equity in Land	796,834	790,834
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 1,125,190	\$ 1,112,259

* Land Protection Fund is restricted to land acquisition costs.

** The Stewardship Fund is restricted to long-term protection costs.

*** The Joseph Taylor Memorial Fund is restricted to the preservation of wildlife habitats.

For a copy of the Annual Financial Report, please call Gay Mills at (585) 381-7310



WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS . . .

Kim Baudry, Dolores Behrouzy-Far, Richard Blankfield, Sally Broadbent, Lou and Karen Chauvin, Julie Claffey, Jason Cook, Glenn Currier, Marilyn Falzone, Dick Freitas, Sheryl Gracewski, Gerald and Lois Jenkins, Henry and Annabelle Martin, Sherry Murrman, John O'Brien and Patricia Providenza, Carolyn Parr, Joseph Perrone, Rochester Garden Club, Jerry and Eve Rubenstein, Paul Spiegel, Kelly Walsh, and Patricia Wright.

AUCTION ITEMS NEEDED

Please help make this year's auction the best yet! Do you have a new item or service to donate to our auction? If you do, please call Cindy Kindle at 381-7310.

IN MEMORY OF . . .

A memorial gift is truly a lasting tribute that honors individuals who shared our vision of protected natural lands in the Greater Rochester area. For this support, we are deeply grateful.

Mr. Douglas Kraai

Mr. & Mrs. William Van Tyle; Russel and Beth Van Tyle

Ms. Marion Schneider

Wendy and Paul Tuttobene, William and Barbara Kingston

Miss Rose Beisman

Gerald and Lois Jenkins

FLYCATCHERS FIND WARM WELCOME

"If you build it, they will come," is generally associated with baseball fans converging on a former cornfield in Iowa. But it also has proved true with Great Crested Flycatchers in a recent nest box project at Island Cottage Woods conducted by GLT member Barry Bermudez.

Birdhouses and nest boxes are most often associated with Bluebirds and Purple Martins. There are, however, a number of other bird species, such as the Flycatcher, that will nest in properly constructed and positioned birdhouses.



Illustration by Catherine Clark

The Flycatchers, Bermudez says, have a number of intriguing characteristics. These include a tropical-flavor call and a fondness for including snake skins in their nests.

The Flycatchers come by their call honestly; they are woodland neotropical migrants, a category referring to birds that nest in North American woodlands and winter in Central and South America. Populations of many of these species have been declining over the course of the last 20 years, with fragmentation in their breeding areas and deforestation in their winter habitats being seen as probable causes. The species, as a result, has been labeled by Partners in Flight as having a "high" conservation priority.

The fact that the birds nest in cavities compounds their plight. Like other cavity nesters, the flycatchers face intense competition from starlings and other birds, as well as small mammals, for an ever-diminishing supply of suitable nesting sites.

It was in recognition of the birds' dilemma that the idea of support came to take flight—first at Braddock Bay State Park

and then at Island Cottage Woods.

Bermudez began by establishing a small nesting colony at Braddock Bay, and then became interested in extending this support to another site nearby. Recognizing Island Cottage Woods as having the same general habitat, Bermudez sought the support of Genesee Land Trust.

Two boxes were placed in the marsh adjacent to the woodland for the 2001 field season. Flycatchers were heard and observed in the area in the early spring, but the nest boxes were not used.

This year, however, a pair of Flycatchers did successfully nest in one of the boxes. The female laid five eggs, four of which hatched. All four nestlings successfully fledged.

Bermudez monitored the nest boxes on a weekly basis, doubling this frequency during the height of the nesting season. He notes that the species tends to be a "little high strung," especially when nesting in a site for the first time, so he was careful not to disturb the birds—or to do anything that would interfere with what he hopes is the beginning of a long and successful experience for birds and people alike.

Bermudez is, in fact, already optimistically looking forward to next year's breeding season.

"Flycatchers demonstrate a high degree of fidelity to successful nest sites; one of my boxes at Braddock Bay has successfully fledged Flycatchers for each of the past four years," he notes. "Based upon the Braddock Bay experience, and the size of the Island Cottage Woods area, I hope to be able to encourage several additional pairs of Flycatchers to eventually nest at the site. With the habitat safely preserved, and with a little human help, I hope that nesting Great Crested Flycatchers will be a common sight at Island Cottage Woods for years to come." ■

Ethan Michael Heywood was among the youngest attendees at the Sept. 8 Ice Cream Social at the newly protected Mendon property of Neal and Ann McNabb.



COMING EVENTS

Earth & Art Auction: 7 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 2, 2002—If you enjoy the ambiance of a historic environment combined with fabulous art, wine tasting, and hors d'oeuvres, plus the dynamics of a silent and public auction, then plan to join us at the Historic Lower Mill in Honeoye Falls for our Seventh Annual Earth & Art Auction. You won't want to miss this extraordinary event!

Deadline For Photography Contest: 4 p.m., Friday, Nov. 22, 2002—Submit photographs of the Genesee Region for the "Within Nature" photography contest to the Spectrum Gallery, 439 Monroe Avenue, Rochester, NY 14607. Check our Web site for details (www.geneseelandtrust.org).

Opening Reception: 5 to 8 p.m. Friday, December 6, 2002—"Within Nature" Photography Contest and Exhibit co-sponsored by Spectrum Gallery. Experience nature through the diverse eyes of our region's best photographers! Witness for yourself the multidimensional creativity of the photographic medium and the natural beauty of our community at the Spectrum Gallery, 439 Monroe Avenue, Rochester, NY 14607.

Please call Cindy Kindle at 381-7310 for further information on any of these events.

ARROWHEAD VOLUNTEERS



Genesee Land Trust was fortunate to be chosen by the YMCA Camp Arrowhead's Summer of Service program for volunteer assistance this summer. Approximately 35 enthusiastic youth campers and counselors prepared a new trail at the Ganargua Creek Meadow Preserve in Macedon. They visited the preserve on three occasions and raked and cleared the trail, lined it with downed wood, and put up trail signs. Special thanks to Tracey Mathis, YMCA Unit Director, for supervising this effort. ■

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!



GENESEE LAND TRUST

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A PIONEERING CONSERVATIONIST

Allan Klonick, a long time supporter of the Genesee Land Trust, admits he will drop everything to catch a glimpse of a rare and wonderful bird.

Klonick, 81, of Fairport, has been a birdwatcher since he was 12 years old and was distracted on his way to school one day by a Hooded Warbler.

"I didn't know what it was at the time, but soon after that my mother, who was interested in my pursuing this hobby, bought me some bird guides and I began to look up all of the birds that I saw," Klonick said. "My family was very musical and I found that I enjoyed listening to the warblers' songs."

As a teenager he joined the Burrough's Audubon Nature Club and found that the group's older members were anxious to take him under their wing. In high school, Klonick's science teachers continued to encourage his interest in birds and the outdoors.

After spending two years at Iowa State studying forestry and serving in the Air Force, Klonick returned to Rochester in the mid-1940s. He linked up again with his old birding friends and together they started the Genesee Ornithological Society. This organization started with eight members and has grown to nearly 80 active members.

Concerned about preserving important bird habitats, Klonick was also involved in starting Bird Refuges, Inc., a not-for-profit created for the purpose of acquiring bird habitat properties. (See front-page story on Reed Road Sanctuary, now a GLT property.)

Klonick says he is proud of the work that Bird Refuges, Inc., the Genesee Ornithological Society, and the Genesee Land Trust has done—and is doing—to conserve natural areas.

"It is important to have an interest in the world around us," Klonick said. "We need to have more of these open spaces because they help us to live healthier lives. You just feel better when you spend time in a natural environment." ■