

# Field Notes

Fall 2016



*Conservation at the  
Forefront*

A publication of The Land Trust for  
Central North Carolina



## A Season of **Thanks**

**W**hen someone says the word “autumn” or “fall,” what thoughts come to mind? Does your mind wander off to cooling temperatures, frost-covered pumpkins, leaves changing color, or perhaps a farmer harvesting his field? Fall is upon us and it is my absolute favorite time of the year.

Weather and leaves are not the only hints of change. As you can see by this edition of Field Notes, changes continue to take place here at The LandTrust. Some of these changes are small and incidental (like the format of this newsletter) and others are more substantial. In the pages that follow, you can find out more about our changes. From county-based LandTrust chapters, to our youth and sportsman initiatives, we are working very hard to build our membership base in order to make a bigger impact on local conservation.



Autumn is also a time of reflection and thankfulness. We are truly grateful for all that you’ve done this year for The LandTrust. Without your generous gifts of time and financial resources, this organization simply would not exist. Because of conservation-minded members like you, The LandTrust continues, working each day to conserve the special places you love.



Travis Morehead

*Conserving the best natural areas, rural landscapes, family farms, and historic places in North Carolina’s heartland.*



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*Field Notes* is published by The LandTrust for Central North Carolina

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## The Dynamics of **Conservation**

**I**t never hurts to remind ourselves that “Our mission is to work thoughtfully and selectively with property owners to conserve our lands, our vistas and the essential nature of our region.”

Land conservation is a dynamic process. Land conservation done thoughtfully involves the active use of natural resources in sustainable programs which integrate recreational and educational opportunities for large segments of our essentially rural population. The accomplishment of our mission involves all of us – working together and working smarter – to engage new friends, reconnect with old friends, and grow a vision of dynamic programs which include and engage diverse populations and constituencies that we have not yet reached.

There is a real sense of excitement at The LandTrust as organic growth, driven by the implementation of new initiatives, is bringing new partners and underserved populations into our expanding programs. We are committed to taking full advantage of new and existing opportunities to partner with others whose interests are closely aligned with ours.

The ten-county region which we serve is bound together by common culture and values, but artificially divided by county lines. The resources which we seek to conserve recognize no boundaries. Neither should we. Winds blow freely and waters follow their natural courses; likewise the pursuit of the mission

of The LandTrust for Central North Carolina must disregard artificial political barriers to reach out to our natural allies and potential partners.

The LandTrust for Central North Carolina is a big tent. There is room for the hunting and fishing community that shares our passion for the land and waters in our region.

They are natural partners. There is room for outreach to our youth who are too often excluded from programs and opportunities to engage in outdoor activities and

conservation efforts. There is room for farmers, foresters, mountain bikers, and water sports enthusiasts. And there is always room for those who simply wish to hike our forests and fields, and experience our lakes, ponds, and mountains for simple reflection and renewal.

The LandTrust is well poised to build on the solid foundation made possible by our founders and supporters and donors.

It is our sacred duty to continue and expand the vital mission of our organization as we advance into the decades ahead. The LandTrust is taking a fresh look at all of our operations with a view toward making land conservation in our region a dynamic and vital service that offers benefits, opportunities, and services to all populations across the area we are honored to serve.



All of this is possible only through the generous support of our donors, sponsors, landowners, and new partners who are joining us every day. At the heart of all of this are our dedicated volunteers and those who generously give of their time and talents to serve on our committees,

keep trails accessible and expanding, and serve as our eyes and ears across our large region.

I thank our dedicated and professional staff who bring great vision, energy, and dedication to their work, and always go the extra mile because of their love of the land.

It is an honor and a joy to serve on the Board of The LandTrust

for Central North Carolina. On behalf of the Board, I thank all of you for your continuing support and encouragement.

**The LandTrust is taking a fresh look at all of our operations with a view toward making land conservation in our region a dynamic and vital service that offers benefits, opportunities, and services to all populations across the areas we are honored to serve.**

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Darrell Hancock". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Darrell Hancock





# LandTrust Transfers Properties Into Public Ownership

The LandTrust transferred four properties into public ownership this summer. By transferring properties into public ownership, The LandTrust supports the increase of recreational opportunities and public access to these special places. In the hands of public agencies, the properties will be well managed and protected for future generations.





## **Tucker Property-- 185 acres to the Uwharrie National Forest in Montgomery County**

In early August, The LandTrust sold the Tucker property to the U.S. Forest Service. The property will connect two sections of the Uwharrie National Forest, protecting habitat connectivity, improving public accessibility, and increasing future recreation opportunities.

“The LandTrust is very excited to transfer this property to our longstanding partners at the US Forest Service,” said LandTrust Executive Director Travis Morehead. “This transfer will enable more people to enjoy this special place.”

The property lies north of Eldorado Township and is composed of forestlands and a large pond. It also encompasses the headwaters of McLean’s Creek, which feeds into the Uwharrie River, a nationally significant aquatic habitat.

This transfer puts the total amount of LandTrust transfers to the Uwharrie National Forest at over 650 acres.

## **Speight Property-- 5 acres to Morrow Mountain State Park in Stanly County**

The LandTrust transferred a unique five-acre property to Morrow Mountain State Park on August 11. The transfer will provide for the perpetual protection of a unique and nationally significant hillside seepage bog. This globally rare habitat is home to a variety of frogs, toads, and salamanders. Additionally, this property is home to a rare plant, the crested coralroot, and the large rocks and boulders are habitat for timber rattlesnake, a state endangered species.

“This five acres on Biles Mountain is within a registered Significant Natural Heritage Area and is considered nationally significant due to its natural communities, rare plant and animal populations, and because its geologic features are among the highest quality in the nation,” states Park Superintendent of Morrow Mountain State Park, Jeff Davidson. “Morrow Mountain State Park is fortunate to have such great support from The LandTrust for Central NC, the Friends of Morrow Mountain, and many others in the local community who stepped up and got involved to help purchase and transfer this land to the park to ensure it is now permanently protected.”

Located in the northeastern portion of Stanly County, the property shares two of its three boundaries with Morrow Mountain State Park. The property will add to the recreation, research, and education opportunities at Morrow Mountain State Park.



LandTrust, NC State Parks, and Friends of Morrow Mountain representatives gather together for the transfer of the Speight property on August 11, 2016.



In addition to the State Parks and Recreation Trust Fund, The Cannon Foundation and the Stanly County Convention and Visitor's Bureau contributed financially to the transfer of this property to the park. The Friends of Morrow Mountain State Park were supportive of this transfer as well. "It is very important to protect and expand the boundaries of Morrow Mountain State Park so that the long range viewshed from atop Morrow Mountain remains natural and scenic," says John Young of Friends of Morrow Mountain State Park. "It is also important to protect the unique seep on the new 5 acre tract. Thanks to The LandTrust and everyone who made this addition possible."

### **Messinger and Carter Properties-- 8 acres to the Town of Spencer in Rowan County**

At the end of the busy month of August, The LandTrust donated two properties to the Town of Spencer to expand the Fred and Alice Stanback Educational Forest and Park. In addition to the transfer of the two properties, the entire park is now permanently protected by conservation easement with The LandTrust.

The park, also known as Spencer Woods, is a unique stand of predominately mature hardwood trees, many of which are 80 to 100 years old. The quality of the oak and hickory forest is excellent, with few cut stumps and invasive species present in the interior.

The park was originally acquired by The LandTrust in 2011 with the assistance of private donors and a Parks and Recreation Trust Fund grant. Through a partnership with the Town of Spencer and the support of community members and volunteers, the vision for the park was set and it was developed with trails and trailhead signage.

In the summer of 2015, Mary Messinger donated a 5-acre property to The LandTrust, and The LandTrust purchased a 3-acre property from Howard and Louise Carter. These two properties were transferred to the town of Spencer on August 16, 2016, and have brought the total size of the park to just over 52 acres.

"The addition of these two properties to the Fred and Alice Stanback Educational Forest increase public access points to the park and allow connectivity to the greenway along Grants Creek and to the Eighth Street Ball Park in Spencer," states Executive Director Travis Morehead. "The park trails can now be expanded to provide more recreational opportunities to Spencer residents and visitors."

In addition, the entire park is now protected by a perpetual conservation easement with The LandTrust for Central North Carolina. This easement will restrict the property from timber harvest and the building of structures that do not enhance the recreational value of the park. The easement will also prevent the property from ever being subdivided in the future.

"Through generous staff support from The LandTrust, substantial private donations, and a PARTF grant from the State of North Carolina, what some believed would take decades to build is now in its core developmental stage," says Town Manager Reid Walters. "In establishing these conservation easements, the Town of Spencer displays its dedication to protecting the Fred and Alice Stanback Educational Forest. These measures are a gift that surpasses the current leadership within the Town of Spencer, the current Board of Directors of The LandTrust for Central North Carolina, and the current residents of Spencer. It is a gift that will last for generations."



# Michael Nye Hired as Membership and Outreach Director

In June, The LandTrust welcomed Michael Nye to our team as the new Membership and Outreach Director. “We are extremely excited to have Michael join The LandTrust staff,” Travis Morehead, LandTrust Executive Director, said. “Her commitment

to conservation is undeniable. We look forward to her leading our membership and outreach efforts across the region.”

Nye grew up in Orrum, North Carolina and attended North Carolina State University where she earned a degree in fisheries and wildlife science with a minor in environmental science. After obtaining her degree in 2002, Nye worked as a wildlife biologist in Wyoming and later in Montana as the Regional Hunting Access Enhancement Coordinator (HAEC) for Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks. As the HAEC, Nye managed over 1.5 million acres of private and public land to be utilized for public hunting and recreation.

Before joining The LandTrust, Nye served as the Southern Piedmont Hunter Education Coordinator for the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission (NCWRC). Covering 15 counties, she administered Hunter Education and Conservation Education Programs, and coordinated the efforts of nearly 200 hunter education volunteers. Additionally, she organized and presented skills-based courses geared towards introducing women and youth to the outdoors.

“The Piedmont is a rich and diverse landscape. With essential agricultural lands and pristine natural areas, North Carolinians are truly blessed with all that it has to offer. It is our responsibility as stewards to conserve North Carolina’s heartland for generations to come,” Nye said. “As the Membership and Outreach Director for The LandTrust, my vision is to ensure all outdoor enthusiasts are able to enjoy these rural and natural areas by hunting, fishing, hiking, and paddling. My focus will be to increase awareness of The LandTrust’s important conservation efforts in our region, and grow The LandTrust membership base so we can continue to conserve places that are vital to our hunting and outdoor recreation community.”



*Want to become more involved with The LandTrust? Consider joining a LandTrust county chapter! County representatives increase the visibility of The LandTrust by planning outreach events and garnering new membership and support at a county level. If interested, contact Michael at [michael@landtrustcnc.org](mailto:michael@landtrustcnc.org) or (704) 647-0302.*



# Connecting Sportsmen to Local Conservation:

## LandTrust Introduces New Sportsman Initiative

Sportsmen and women have historically played a major contributing role in natural resource conservation. Beginning in the mid-1800s, hunters and anglers realized they needed to set limits in order to protect rapidly disappearing wildlife, and assume responsibility for managing wild habitats. Hunters and anglers were among the first to crusade for wildlife protection and remain some of today's most important conservation leaders.

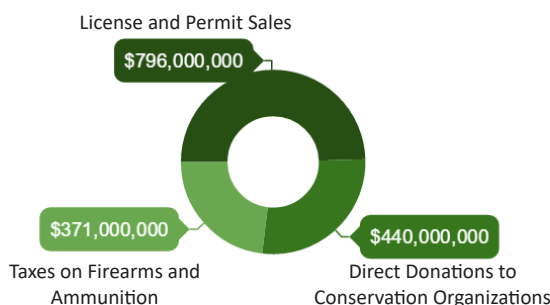
With the support of the hunting and shooting sports industries, the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act was passed in 1937. This act placed a special excise tax on firearms and ammunition to be shared among state wildlife agencies for the exclusive purpose of supporting conservation efforts. Since the program began, hunters have contributed over \$7.2 billion to state conservation efforts. Given current levels of firearm and ammunition sales, hunters now contribute over \$371 million annually. But the funding doesn't end here. Add in the \$796 million spent on license and permit sales, which go directly to the hunter's respective state wildlife agency, and the \$440 million in annual donations directly to conservation and sportsmen's organizations, hunters contribute over \$1.6 billion annually to conservation. To date, no other demographic provides more funding to conservation.

As the leading land conservation group in the southern central Piedmont, The LandTrust recognizes that sportsmen and women's efforts are without peer when it comes to funding the continuing efforts to conserve wildlife and natural habitat. In The LandTrust's 10-county region, there are over 140,000 active hunting license holders. Although The LandTrust has historically

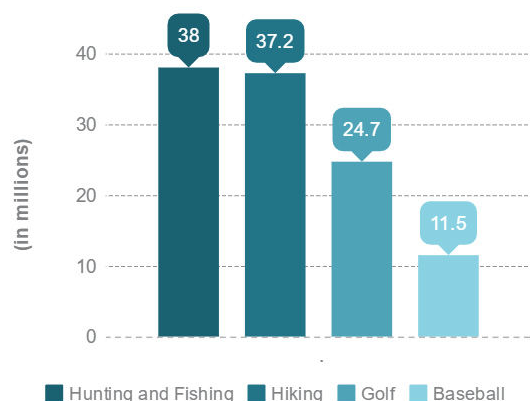
provided programs and events to target outdoor recreational use, there has been a disconnect from our sportsmen constituents.

Recognizing the importance of North Carolina's hunting heritage, The LandTrust for Central North Carolina has developed a Sportsman's Initiative. This initiative will strive to recruit new sportsmen and conservationists through classes and outdoor experiences, retain our longstanding hunter membership by offering new avenues to get afield, and re-engage those sportsmen and women who may have withdrawn from the hunting community for various reasons by introducing them to our conservation efforts. Truly, our mission with the development of this initiative is to "Connect Sportsmen to Local Conservation."

Hunters' Annual Contributions to Conservation



Number of Americans That Participate In:



\$2,484



Average amount a hunter spends annually on hunting



Increase in women hunting over the past 5 years

\*Data from the National Shooting Sports Foundation, 2013



## Hunter Education Course

In August, we kicked off our Sportsman Initiative by hosting our first NC Hunter Education course.

This 6-hour course is required for anyone age 16 and older to purchase a NC hunting license. The Hunter Education course provides critical information on firearm safety, wildlife conservation, and the importance of ethical hunting. During this inaugural class, 15 participants ranging in age from 12 to 42 successfully passed the course and are now able to purchase a NC hunting license. Look for upcoming classes on our website to reserve your seat at our next course.



The LandTrust's first class of graduates from NC Hunter Education.



Youth Deer Hunt participant Caleb with his first buck, accompanied by LandTrust staff Michael Nye and Travis Morehead.

## Inaugural Youth Deer Hunt

On September 24th- NC Wildlife Resources Commission (NCWRC) Youth Deer Day- The LandTrust hosted our inaugural Youth and Disabled Youth Hunt on the Point Property in Davie County. This hunt, in partnership with Hands of a Sportsman and Pass'n it on Outdoors, gave six youth hunters the opportunity to harvest a deer. Prior to the hunt, all participants and their parents attended a safety briefing to learn firearm safety and the importance of hunting as a conservation tool. Participants harvested four deer over the course of the day and observed wild turkey in the field. NCWRC's Cody Fulk was on hand to process harvest data as well as assist in teaching the youth participants how to correctly tag their deer. We would like to thank everyone who participated and assisted with this successful event! We look forward to hosting more sportsman events in the future.

## Sportsman Access Program

Beginning in the spring of 2017, The LandTrust will offer a closely monitored Sportsman Access Program that will allow current sportsman members to access LandTrust-owned property\* for hunting. This permit draw system, much like the permitted system used by most state wildlife agencies, will allow sportsman members to select specific dates for a chance to hunt dove, deer, waterfowl, or turkey on LandTrust-owned property. If a member is drawn, they will be able to hunt a designated section of LandTrust-owned property for up to a week. Dues garnered from sportsman memberships will be utilized for conservation funding. The Sportsman Access Program will give our members a chance to see their conservation dollars at work!

Stay tuned for more information on this exciting new program soon!

Sportsman Membership Program					
Membership Level	Heritage	Guardian	Steward	Legacy	Three Rivers
	\$100	\$300	\$500	\$700	\$1000
Number of Hunt Draw Entries	4	7	9	11	13

\*Does not affect conservation easement properties.





# RiverDance

**T**he LandTrust's premier fundraiser and end-of-summer soiree brings together supporters from across North Carolina's heartland.

This year's RiverDance gala was held on August 20th at the Historic Salisbury Train Depot. We had an excellent time celebrating another fantastic year of saving the places you love in North Carolina's heartland.

This year's theme centered around our newly rebranded major giving category, the Three Rivers Society. The Three Rivers Society is named for the major rivers of the central Piedmont that serve as the lifeblood of our region: the Yadkin-Pee Dee, the Uwharrie, and the Rocky. Similarly, our members provide essential funding that allows our organization to continue the conservation work that is critical to our quality of life.





The Three Rivers were reflected in the event's decorations and buffet. The theme inspired a carefully curated menu of natural and locally-sourced gourmet foods, including delicious flank steak, catfish, peach cobbler, and s'mores.

RiverDance attendees danced the night away to the beach, soul, and rock-n-roll stylings of The Castaways.

And there was more than just awesome food, drink, and music! This year we brought back our silent auction designed to help you Enjoy the Places You Love. Silent Auction offerings included a quail hunt on the Webb Farm, a getaway in the Blue Ridge Mountains, a guided fishing

trip on the Uwharrie River, a gift basket of dog treats and toys, massages and aromatherapy from Green Life Massage, and much more! Congratulations to the winners of these fantastic items.

Many thanks to all those who joined us over the years at the best party of the summer. Funds raised through RiverDance have been critical for our efforts to further land conservation in our region. RiverDance is a great way to wind down the summer season with a top-notch band, ample refreshments, excellent food, and the exceptional company of people who are dedicated to conserving the places we love! We can't wait to see you again next year!



# Thank You to Our RiverDance Sponsors!

## Presenting Sponsor

The Mary and Elliott Wood Foundation

## Major Sponsors

Rachel and Charlie Bernheim

Sara and Bob Cook

Linn and Blake Evans

Peter Hairston

Edie and Walter Holland

Mike Mabry

Elizabeth and Owen Norvell

Susan and Edward Norvell

Bruce R. Rufty

Alice and Fred Stanback

Nancy and Bill Stanback

Karen and Mike Walter

A Friend of the Salisbury Community Foundation



## General Sponsors

Dr. John Crawford III



## Friends Sponsors

Properties at Lake Tillery, Stephen Watson and Jane Lee Watson

Statewide Title, Inc. of North Carolina



## Silent Auction Sponsors



Laura Fogo and Kacy Cook

David Craft

Ray Dawson

Dwight Dennis

Green Life Massage

Darrell Hancock

Hang'em High Taxidermy

Dale Newport and John Isenhour

Bob Pendergrass

Greg Queen

Terry Sharpe

Jason Walser



In May, 60 hikers joined us for a spectacular backpacking trip through some of the oldest mountains in the world, paying tribute to the trailblazers and uncovering the secrets of the trail. Despite a rainy start, over 30 hikers completed the full 4-day backpacking trip.

At 40 miles, the Uwharrie Trail is the longest single-track footpath in Piedmont North Carolina. The LandTrust and other conservation partners have been working for the past 20 years to reconnect this trail, and thanks to these efforts, it can now be hiked in its 40-mile entirety. The Uwharrie Trail is known for its cultural and natural significance, including such unique features as old gold mines, rare plants and wildlife, ghost stories, and more.

On the last night of the backpacking trip, a cookout celebration was held at the Walkers Creek Trailhead. Chris Cagle of Eldorado Outpost generously provided a delicious meal of barbeque and seasoned potatoes. Beer was donated by Four Saints Brewing Company in Asheboro.

Special thanks to the Dr. Pepper Snapple Group and Cabela's for providing support for the Thru Hike!



David Gardener was awarded the Uwharrie Trail Champion award at the cookout for his dedicated volunteer work on the Uwharrie Trail.







# *Paddling* the Uwharries

**T**his summer, The Land Trust hosted several paddles to showcase the beautiful water resources and plentiful paddling opportunities in our region. Floats were scheduled for all of our "Three Rivers"-- the Yadkin-Pee Dee, Rocky, and Uwharrie.

On July 29, 14 intrepid paddlers floated from Highway 52 to the new take-out on the Pee Dee National Wildlife Refuge. Paddlers were treated to portions of the paddle on both the Rocky River and the Pee Dee River. The highlight of the float was seeing the confluence of the two rivers, where the water changes from the warm, muddy waters of the Rocky to the cool, clear waters of the Pee Dee.

On September 17, a group of paddlers took on the Narrows trip on the Yadkin River. This float puts in at the end of Falls Rd south of Badin and paddles upriver to see the Badin Dam. The dam is quite a sight to see from the water!

Unfortunately, the Uwharrie River was uncooperative this summer. In May, the scheduled paddle was cancelled because of high, fast-flowing waters following a downpour. The September paddle was changed to the Narrows float at the last minute because the Uwharrie was too low. We hope next time to get it just right!



Paddlers revelled in the perfect weather during the July 29th float on the Rocky and Pee Dee Rivers.



# Summer Interns Make an Impact on Local Conservation

The summer of 2016 has already come and gone, and so we have said goodbye to our summer interns.

From May to August, we hosted 3 outstanding interns at our Salisbury office. The interns worked on a variety of projects, including potential project prioritization plans, management plans, easement monitoring, environmental education, outreach events, and RiverDance prep. We are grateful to have had these bright and talented young people with us! Best of luck to them in their future endeavors.

**Dia Adams** was our Environmental Education and Outreach intern through Conservation Trust for NC's Max Mukelabai Diversity Internship program. Dia grew up in Greensboro, NC. An alumna of North Carolina A&T State University, she received her B.S. in Animal Science and has plans to pursue a master's degree in Earth and Environmental Policy.

**Tim Hipp** was one of our Conservation Planning and Management interns through the Stanback Internship Program at Duke University. Tim is pursuing a Master of Environmental Management degree at Duke, concentrating in Ecosystem Science and Conservation. He grew up in San Francisco, California and graduated in 2011 from UCLA with a BS in Biology. He is interested in natural resource management, especially concerning forests and wildlife.



Dia assists Stewardship Director Ethan Greene at one of our volunteer workdays.

**Nancy Shi** was our other Conservation Planning and Management Intern through the Stanback Internship Program. She is now a second year masters student at Duke, studying environmental management with a concentration in coastal management and forestry. Originally from Shanghai, China, Nancy studied mathematics as an undergraduate and loved doing quantitative analysis.



Nancy enjoys a paddle on the Uwharrie River.



Tim puts in a solid day's work at the office.





**Thank You.** Your donations allow us to continue “Saving the Places You Love” in the central Piedmont. This list recognizes members that are current as of October 1, 2016. Every effort has been made to ensure these names are correct. Should there be an error, or if you have questions or comments, please contact us at (704) 647-0302. Thank you for supporting The LandTrust!

**Three Rivers Society**

**Yadkin-Pee Dee River \$10,000 and up**

Mr. and Mrs. William C. Stanback  
 Mr. Brad Stanback and Ms. Shelli Lodge-  
 Stanback  
 Mr. and Mrs. Fred J. Stanback

**Three Rivers Society**

**Uwharrie River \$5000 - \$9999**

Ms. Robin C. Mason

**Three Rivers Society**

**Rocky River \$1000 - \$4999**

Mr. and Mrs. Michael and Lisa Aaron  
 Mr. and Mrs. Gregory M. Alcorn  
 Ms. Amy Pitsner Barnhardt  
 Mr. and Mrs. Michael Stephen Bauk  
 Mr. and Mrs. Charles A. Bernheim  
 Mr. and Mrs. Steven Blalock  
 Mr. Larry T. Cloninger  
 Mr. and Mrs. Robert L. Cook Jr.  
 Mr. and Mrs. David B. Craft  
 Mr. Louis Eubanks  
 Mr. and Mrs. Blake and Linn Evans  
 Mr. Spurgeon Foster  
 Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Fuller  
 Ms. Ruth Ann Grissom and Dr. Marcus Plescia  
 Mr. Peter Wilson Hairston  
 Mr. and Mrs. Robert G. Hazen  
 Dr. and Mrs. Walter B. Holland  
 Ms. Brandi Honeycutt  
 Mr. and Mrs. West Hunter  
 Mrs. Geraldine T Hurley  
 Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Pannill Hurley  
 Mr. and Mrs. Robert Knox  
 Mr. and Mrs. John G. Lipscomb  
 Mr. Mike Mabry  
 Mr. and Mrs. Dwight Ferrand Messenger  
 Mr. and Mrs. Joseph C. Morris  
 Mr. and Mrs. Edward Proctor Norvell  
 Mr. and Mrs. Owen Barbour Norvell  
 Mr. James S. Plant and Ms. Nanci Petruccelli  
 Mr. David Bruce Post  
 Mr. Rednecheck  
 Mr. Mark and Ms. Jane Ritchie  
 Mr. and Mrs. Harold Knox Roberts Jr.  
 Mr. Bruce Ruffy  
 Mr. and Mrs. Richard W. Shaver  
 Mrs. Banks D. Shepherd  
 Mr. and Mrs. Jerry F. Smith  
 Mr. and Mrs. Tom E. Smith  
 Dr. Mark T. Stanback and Ms. Nancy J. Popkin  
 Mr. and Mrs. John Michael Walter  
 Mr. and Mrs. James Whitton  
 Ms. Traci Williams  
 Mr. William Penn Wood

**Steward \$500 - \$999**

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 Dr. and Mrs. Steven J. Colwell  
 Mr. and Mrs. Darryl Keith Corriher  
 Dr. and Mrs. John R. Crawford III  
 Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Glasgow  
 Mr. and Mrs. Sanders Emerson Goodman  
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 Rev. George R. Slaton  
 Mr. and Mrs. Dan Griff Smith  
 Dr. and Mrs. Robert Gibson Steele  
 Ms. Elaine B. Steele  
 Dr. and Mrs. Erron J. Towns

**Guardian \$250 - \$499**

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 Mr. and Mrs. Lee Allen  
 Mr. and Mrs. Robert Reece Bailey  
 Miss Daphne E. Beck  
 Mr. and Mrs. Ricky Bevan  
 Dr. and Mrs. Wilbert W. Blackman  
 Mr. and Mrs. W. Summersett Carter  
 Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Durwood Coltrain  
 Ms. Mary C. Criddlebaugh  
 Mr. and Mrs. Randy Everhart  
 Mr. and Mrs. Chalmers L. Glenn  
 Mr. and Mrs. Cress E. Goodnight III  
 Mr. and Mrs. William Wyatt Goodnight  
 Mr. Jeffrey Grant  
 Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Grenoble  
 Ms. Karen Hobson  
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 Ms. Diane Hundley  
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**Explorer \$100 - \$249**

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 In memory of OC Koontz  
 by Dr. and Mrs. Robert Nesbit  
  
 In memory of Zachary Griff Smith  
 by Mr. and Mrs. Dan Griff Smith  
  
 In memory of Virginia "Jennie" Sparks  
 by Mr. James Anderson Sparks Jr.

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 by Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Pannill Hurley  
  
 In honor of Statewide Title, Inc.  
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 In honor of Sue Walser and Jason Walser  
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As a member of EarthShare NC, The LandTrust is part of a coalition of 70 like-minded organizations that work to improve North Carolina's environment. EarthShare NC partners with employers on workplace giving programs that allow employees to establish a payroll deduction with 100% of their contribution going to the environmental nonprofit of their choice.



**We hope you will look for us in your workplace giving campaign! Support The LandTrust: SECC # 1173, CFC # 29734 or EarthShare NC: SECC #1100, CFC #15322.**

If you are interested in establishing a giving program at your business or workplace, please contact us at (704) 647-0302.



# The Leopold Society:

## Building the Next Generation of Conservationists

In recent years, “nature-deficit disorder” has become the term used to describe the increasing alienation of children from nature—their isolation in urbanized environments with lack of access to open space, the proliferation of technology and electronic communications which absorbs their attention, and the seemingly diminished importance of the natural world in our day-to-day lives.

In the effort to fight nature-deficit disorder and raise awareness of the natural resources that need protecting in our region, The LandTrust has developed a youth initiative. The Leopold Society is designed to enlighten youth participants from grades 6 to 12 on the natural world and conservation issues. Participants will learn conservation techniques, outdoor skills, and hands-on natural resource stewardship and service. The long-term goal of the program is to instill a lifelong love of nature that will translate into positive action as adults.

The program will include a “passport” with requirements for the participants to complete various activities related to the outdoors, such as hiking, paddling, hunting, fishing, and orienteering. Along with these activities, participants will complete a conservation-focused service project. As

they complete activities, participants will receive stamps and patches to recognize their achievements. Finally, The LandTrust hopes to award college scholarships to qualifying high school seniors that complete the program.

Beginning late fall 2016, The LandTrust will partner with local schools to introduce The Leopold Society. Currently, one Salisbury school has signed on and we have secured our first major sponsor. In this pilot year, our goal is to work with 5 schools to enroll at least one class into The Leopold Society. During the summer months, we will look to partner with county recreational departments to identify summer programs that would benefit from activities highlighted within The Leopold Society.

Extending past our youth initiative, The LandTrust is engaging our collegiate community. In August, staff met with Dr. Luke Dollar at Pfeiffer University to discuss partnership opportunities. On September 20th, The LandTrust hosted Pfeiffer University at our Low Water Bridge Property for a cleanup project. Students and LandTrust staff gathered trash and recyclables along the bridge and trail. Future partnership opportunities with Pfeiffer and other college students include longleaf plantings, chestnut planting maintenance, and property monitoring.

Pfeiffer students picked up litter at Low Water Bridge on September 20th.







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# Join Us!

We hope you enjoy this copy of Field Notes! Our biannual newsletter is one of the benefits of membership with The LandTrust for Central North Carolina. To continue receiving our newsletter, please maintain membership with The LandTrust.

Learn more at [www.landtrustcnc.org/giving](http://www.landtrustcnc.org/giving)

**Remember us during your end-of-year giving!** The LandTrust for Central North Carolina is a nonprofit organization working with private and public landowners to protect the special natural areas, family farms, and rural landscapes of Anson, Cabarrus, Davidson, Davie, Iredell, Montgomery, Randolph, Richmond, Rowan and Stanly Counties. **By becoming a member of The LandTrust, you'll join us in our vital mission to protect clean water, fresh air, and the exquisite natural areas that make the central Piedmont such a wonderful place to live and work.**

With 501(c)(3) status, all donations to The LandTrust qualify for maximum tax deductions.

Join at our Three Rivers Society level and receive an invitation to our Three Rivers Society Donor Appreciation Dinner on November 5th!

