

# THE LANDMARK

### WINTER 2011

#### 200-Year Old Piedmont Longleaf Pine Forest To Be Preserved!



A Partnership Project of the NC Zoo and The LandTrust for Central NC



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### LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

On January 8th of this year, more than 30 boy scouts (and some of their adventurous fathers) descended upon the Birkhead Wilderness Area in Randolph County. The two scout troops, Troop 442 and Troop 443, divided into four groups, each entering the forest from a different direction. The goal was to all meet at one particular spot in the middle of the Uwharrie National Forest. They would learn to use Global Positioning System handheld units to locate a specific latitudinal and longitudinal spot and figure out how to get there.



While on this trek, some of the young men learned they were performing the same task performed in these ancient mountains by humans for thousands of years before them. They learned how their predecessors used the stars, smoke signals, and compasses to meet up with friends or others to trade important goods. And they realized that there are still plenty of places in the Uwharries that do not have existing trails to guide them!

Yes, these young men were engaging in traditions that have been undertaken in these mountains by fathers and sons for literally hundreds of generations: how to navigate to important locations, choosing where and how to cross abundant streams, figuring out how to bush-whack through heavy underbrush, and seeking out suitable campsites and fire-pit locations in this surprisingly (still) wild landscape. This story is not unique. In fact, it happens nearly every weekend in the Uwharries. Located within a two hour drive of most of the population of North Carolina, boy scout troops from Raleigh to Charlotte come to the Uwharries to learn to camp, practice archery, hike, paddle, fish, and more.

What was unique about this most recent trip, however, is that one of the four groups dropped off on the perimeter of the Birkheads started their hike on a 290-acre parcel owned by The LandTrust. They found it wild, wet, and challenging, as relayed to me by one of the fathers helping this particular group reach their destination (some 6 miles away).

While this parcel did indeed pose the same challenges to these young men that they had for the countless hikers, hunters, and traders who have crossed that tract in the 12,000 years people have lived in the region, this was almost not so. But for The LandTrust purchasing this property in 2006, it would now be home to nearly 2 miles of pavement, 57 homes, bridges, and far fewer trees. You see, it was owned by a developer who had secured permitting for the subdivision described above. But for the supporters like you and a state agency that we felt would help us purchase this property (The Clean Water Management Trust Fund, CWMTF), we would not have taken out a loan to secure it. And but for us buying it, 15 young men would not have had the thick, wet, and wild landscape to have to overcome in order to meet up with their friends in the middle of the Birkheads.

This particular tract will eventually be the only access point to the Wilderness Area from the eastern side (due to private ownership along High Pines Church Road). Because of The Land Trust for Central North Carolina – YOUR land trust – and The Clean Water Management Trust Fund, this property will be wet, and wild, and challenging for countless fathers and sons to try to tackle for the next 12,000 years.

Economic challenges remain for all of this region and for all of our donors. It is possible that the CWMTF and other state trust funds that support projects like this might not be funded this year due to the state's budget challenges. However, we need to remind ourselves regularly why we do what we do, and what our current efforts mean for future generations. We have much to be proud of – both projects completed and those "coming down the pike" in the year ahead. By knowing you are behind us, we will continue to stick out our necks to realize the great conservation legacy you – and our children – deserve.

### Old-Growth Piedmont Longleaf Pine Forest to be Preserved!



their goals of managing and enhancing the longleaf forest with prescribed burns and developing this into a one-of-a-kind educational forest, as well." The listing broker, Dean Ross, with Ross Properties, is also extremely excited about working with these organizations to help pre-

In partnership with The North Carolina Zoological Park, the LandTrust is working on a project to preserve the 112-acre Arnett Branch Longleaf Pine Forest, the last known remaining intact old-growth Piedmont longleaf pine forest (200+ yrs old) of this size in the region. This truly unique property has over 85 acres of the mature longleaf pine trees, many of which possess the cat-facing scars seen on the cover of the newsletter, where they were historically boxed for turpentine. Longleaf pine once covered an area larger than 90 million acres. However, it now covers only about 3% of its historical range, and the vast majority of this is located in the Coastal Plain. Conserving this property will preserve and enhance an exceedingly rare ecosystem, the Piedmont longleaf pine forest. Other notable species that have been found on the property include timber rattlesnake, spotted salamanders, and Kentucky warbler.

The seller expressed her excitement about seeing the land preserved: "We are very pleased that we managed to get the interest of The Land Trust and The Zoo because we know that they will be able to preserve and enhance the forest in a manner in which we might otherwise be unable to afford to do if it was kept in the hands of the family. We are excited about serve the property as his seller wished while also maintaining the natural land and heritage for generations to come.

The N.C. Zoo was awarded funding for purchase of approximately half of the property by the Natural Heritage Trust Fund, and we are working to close on that half in early spring. Grants are being written to seek funds for the remainder of the property as well, which will be managed as an educational longleaf pine savannah. Fred and Alice Stanback also provided important funds to secure an option on the property while grants can be written to raise the balance of the purchase price (We are about \$220,000 shy of the funds necessary to complete this unique project.) More news on this project to come!



The property has more than 85 acres of huge, old- growth Piedmont longleaf pine trees.

### King Mountain project complete -Phase II to Wildlife Commission!

Through a remarkable partnership, 370 acres in the heart of the Uwharries are permanently protected and publicly owned for the use of all citizens. In our last newsletter, we celebrated the transfer of 163 acres of the King Mountain Property to the U.S. Forest Service, filling a strategic gap in the historic Uwharrie National Recreational Trail, joining three otherwise disconnected Forest Service properties, and securing the highest peak in the Uwharrie National Forest proper.

This past December, as made possible by funding from the North Carolina Natural Heritage Trust Fund, the remaining 191 acres of the King Mountain Property



A Rare Piedmont Monadnock Forest adds to the site's Natural Heritage Significance.

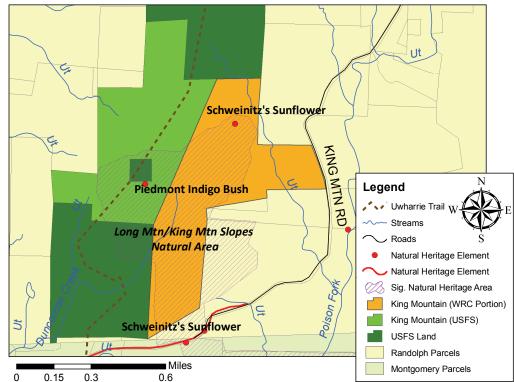
(along with the rare community of Piedmont Monadnock Forest, several pristine streams and a healthy population of the Federally endangered Schweinitz's sunflower), are now officially owned by the N



Federally Endangered Schweinitz's sunflower located on property.

owned by the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission. This special natural area will be maintained and enhanced, while simultaneously being made available to the public for multiple recreational uses.

State and federal agencies, local and national land conservation nonprofits, and various local organizations worked together across territorial boundaries to make this multi-agency and five year long project a success beyond what any one could have initially envisioned. This project was only made possibly by the cooperation, support, and advocacy of these many partners.



#### King Mountain Property - Natural Heritage



Congressman Howard Coble and many of the conservation partners who made this project possible celebrate at the Jumpin' Off Rock Trailhead, the current northern terminus of the trail.

Over a five-year time span, more than ten agencies collaborated together on the vision of this project. The U.S. Forest Service and Congressman Howard Coble's office through an earmark helped secure funding for the Uwharrie Trail portion of the first transaction. The Conservation Fund and Doris Duke Foundation with the support of the Wildlife Resources Commission allowed Wildlife Action Plan implementation money to be used as an Trust for North Carolina also made available a low interest loan for the property. The Greater Uwharrie Conservation Partnership provided support for the project. The Eastern Forest Partnership advocated for the property on a national level. Fred and Alice Stanback and Amy Grissom also contributed private funds for the project.

Truly, this project exemplified the best of land conservation happening today in North Carolina. "From the private sector

interest free loan on this property. The Natural Heritage Trust Fund saw the special natural values of this property and provided the necessary funding for the second half of the property to go to the NC Wildlife Resources Commission (WRC). WRC staff worked hard to apply for these grants and committed to take ownership and manage this property. The Conservation



investments, to government agency support, to collaborating nonprofit assistance, everyone involved in this project worked as a team to make something very meaningful happen for current and future citizens of this state," Executive Director Jason Walser states. "The Land-Trust is proud to be able to work with all these incredibly dedicated partners!"

### **Reece Property on Yadkin River in Davie County Conserved**

From our inception, The LandTrust has had a focus on trying to protect the Yadkin / Pee Dee River. Not only does it supply water to millions of our citizens, it also is a significant wildlife corridor used by a diverse array of aquatic, terrestrial, and avian creatures that have relied on the river since before human habita-



Rolling farmland and mature forest preserved on the Reece Property.

tion. And of course, it is home to many of the most important historic resources our region has to offer.

The Reece Farm on the Yadkin River in northern Davie County exemplifies the best attributes of the Yadkin River, and will protect many conservation values of regional importance thanks to the donation of a conservation easement by John and Libby Reece in late 2010.

The 97-acre property includes significant hardwood forests, seasonal wetlands, substantial river frontage, and a bottomland field with remnant warm season grass populations. The conservation easement will not only prevent future development on the site, but will also protect the trees, river frontage, and wetlands. In fact, the Reece's have taken great strides in the past several years to improve water quality running into the Yadkin River. The bottomland pasture has not housed cows nor agricultural activities since they have owned the property, and they have managed the pastures to provide wildlife habitat for a variety of wildlife.

It is also a spectacularly beautiful natural area located in the midst of an urbanizing region just outside of Winston Salem. Located within 10 minutes of Winston Salem, the property could certainly have eventually been developed into multiple homesites. Property owner John Reece noted, "Libby and I were proud to help ensure the long term protection of this special property. The natural beauty of the place is what drove us to originally purchase the property, and having the opportunity to permanently protect the land through a conservation easement was an easy decision for us."

Although the property has not been professionally inventoried, it is home to many archaeological resources of significance. In years past, many Native American artifacts were found along the bottomlands next to the river. Although not located on this property, there is a high knoll overlooking the river and bottomlands adjacent to the Reece farm at a large bend in the river. The number and type of resources are unknown, but with this conservation easement, the Reece's have ensured that future inventorying and studying of the buried artifacts will one day be possible.

We are grateful for this generous conservation gift to the citizens of our region, and look forward to working with the Reece's in the years ahead to ensure that the property will be managed to provide maximum wildlife and water quality benefits perpetually.

# Mother & Daughter Protect Land by Morrow Mountain State Park

In January, Julie and Tom Curtis and Julie's mother, Jane Harrison, together protected nearly 40 acres adjacent to Morrow Mountain State Park, preserving a scenic viewshed of the park and an important buffer along Mountain Creek and four of its tributaries. This beautiful and now protected land is a pristine natural area, with some huge hardwood trees along the streams. In addition, it is home to two rare plants, thick-pod White Wild Indigo (Baptisia alba) and Ravine sedge (Carex impressinervia). The streams on both properties are also known to house Carolina Creekshell (Villosa



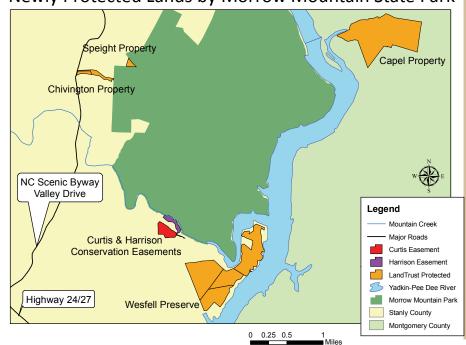
Beautiful hardwood buffer on pristine Mountain Creek



Morrow Mountain as seen from property.

tion to sharing a boundary with the park, the easement preserves the viewshed for one of the popular equestrian trails that also follows the stream. Thanks to the Curtis's and Jane Harrison, this truly special place will be protected in perpetuity. A special thank you also to the N.C. Clean Water Management Trust Fund for providing a mini-grant for transactional costs, the Stanly County Friends of the Land who also helped with these costs, and Bank of Stanly and Clegg Mabry, attorney, for their remarkable contributions towards this project's completion.

a mussel that is a Federal Species of Concern. Bald eagle and timber rattlesnake are no stranger to these properties, either. And the mature hardwood understory is home to such plants as Atamasco lily and Carolina beauty, as well. In addi-



#### vaughaniana), Newly Protected Lands by Morrow Mountain State Park

### LandTrust Seeks Funds to Protect Spencer Property

The following letter was sent to The LandTrust by Angelo Capparella, Illinois State University Associate Professor of Zoology from the School of Biological Sciences. He had learned that we were trying to purchase the 43 acre mature hardwood tract located at the edges of Spencer and Salisbury, and locally known as the "Spencer Woods" tract slated to be cleared of all timber as highlighted in a series of Salisbury Post articles. Because of the economic challenges at the local, state, and federal government levels, The LandTrust is focusing fundraising efforts on private citizens to help try to create a new urban educational forest. If you are willing to participate in this project, please let The LandTrust know of your interest immediately.

Preserving natural areas results from many motivations and justifications, but it can't be denied that a love for such areas gets very personal and is often cultivated at a young age. My late grandmother, Virginia Holt Spake of Spencer, was an



important force encouraging my interest in the natural world.

I grew up roaming and exploring the woods and streams of the Piedmont in the Research Triangle area. My initial interest focused on snakes, an interest that was fully supported by my mother and grandmother. Later I expanded into birds and my grandmother would take me out to Dan Nicholas Park during visits. She often told the story of how, when I was imitating an Eastern Screech-Owl call to bring the birds in for her to get a closer look, a Carolina Chickadee nearly landed on my head! Along with my mother and siblings we drove up every Thanksgiving to Spencer from Carrboro to stuff ourselves silly with turkey, stuffing, and collards. Afterwards, Grannie would take us on a walk around the neighborhood, including the South Rowan Avenue stretch through Spencer Woods. This beautiful woodland in the heart of town was always a treat to see, and I know she worried it wouldn't be there forever.

When my grandmother passed away, I searched for an appropriate way to honor her memory. In central Illinois where I now live and work, I've volunteered for years with our local land trust, so I searched for land trusts covering Rowan County. I was thrilled to find The Land-Trust for Central North Carolina (LTCNC) and learn that they are a dedicated and creative group fostering protection of the natural areas and green spaces that make that part of the Piedmont a very special place. This was definitely what I sought to give an annual memorial gift to keep her memory alive.

I've followed with great satisfaction the activities of the LTCNC, especially their efforts in the Uwharries - an area I've always found fascinating. I thought Spencer Woods would probably be gone by now, but imagine my surprise when I learned that The LTCNC is trying to save this important urban forest! That part of my past will hopefully live in perpetuity and will inspire others to appreciate and learn from the natural world, much as I have. Who knows, perhaps another Carolina kid will find that experience with nature ignites not only a passion to be in the natural world, but also a career that includes preserving it. -Angelo Capparella



Committee Planning Session

### *RIVERDANCE 2011! August 20th* SAVE THE DATE!

*RiverDance 2011* will be held on Saturday evening, August 20th, at the Historic Salisbury Station.

This year's co-chairs are Andrea Anders and Michael Bitzer, and a dynamic committee has already been assembled. Members include LaCreasa and Richard Allen, Gwin and Matt Barr, Heather and Brad Brady, Ann and Bucky Cline, Kelly and Billy Fisher, Brenda and Franco Goodman, Amy and Will Goodnight, **Emily and Wes Graham, Nancy** and Wilson Graham, Emily Hunter, Margaret and William Nobles, Trisha and Tim Proper, **Addie Laurie and Richard** Reamer, Starr Shive, Luanne and Chip Short, Carole and David Simmons, Tracy and Kenan Smith, Nichole and Erron Towns, and Traci and Brad Williams.

### Volunteers Recognized for work on Gold Hill Rail Trail

Two volunteers were recognized for their volunteer work on the Gold Hill Rail Trail at the annual meeting of the Historic Gold Hill and Mines Foundation on February 7th.

Dillon Tate of Scout Troop 83 from Harrisburg, North Carolina, received the "Preservation Award" for logging approximately 170 hours creating and installing signage for twenty historic sites and landmarks along the Rail Trail and adjacent hiking trails in the adjacent Gold Hill Mines Historical Park. The signs correspond with the sites identified in a trail guide titled "Your Guide to Gold Hill Mines Historic Park and the Gold Hill Rail Trail." Dillon also received his Eagle Scout Badge in December in part for his work on the trail.

Aaron Kepley of the Pfeiffer University History Club also received an award for leading the club in a project to restore the rock wall along the trail.

The Gold Hill Rail Trail is a public trail owned by The LandTrust and maintained by many volunteers. Copies of "Your Guide to Gold Hill Mines Historic Park and the Gold Hill Rail Trail" are available at the E.H. Montgomery Store in Historic Gold Hill for \$2.50.



# LandTrust Enhances Wildlife Habitat at S. Yadkin Refuge

Last Fall the LandTrust completed phase one of a multi-phase plan to improve wildlife habitat at the 298-acre South Yadkin Wildlife Refuge in northwestern Rowan County.

The property included two stands of densely planted loblolly pines. Working with a registered forester under the guidance of our stewardship committee and in close consultation with longtime Land-Trust advisor John Isenhour, a field biologist for the Wildlife Resources Commission, a "habitat thinning" was conducted on the stands to help create conditions favorable for wildlife habitat in the understory. Some areas of the stands were left un-thinned, so differences between the two habitats could be studied over time. Future phases of the habitat restoration project will include invasive species control, native grass plantings, and controlled burns over portions of the property.

"This was the first habitat restoration project of this size and scale the Land-Trust has undertaken," notes Operations Director Andrew Waters, who helped coordinate the thinning. "But with over



Committee members John Isenhour and Mark Lewis core trees and see from growth rings it is time to thin to open the forest canopy.

4,000 acres in LandTrust ownership, we anticipate more projects of this nature as our organization continues to grow and mature. I want to thank John Isenhour, LandTrust Board Member John Peeler, our forester Tim Cartner, and everyone on our stewardship committee for their advice and help. We truly believe that with future grass planting, prescribed burning, and a return of a more diverse understory, we will quickly see an increase in wildlife diversity on this property, noted Waters.



# The LandTrust's First Prescribed Burn Enhances Prairie Habitat



The LandTrust's first prescribed burn on 50 acres of field, with the purpose of enhancing the native warm season grasses here, which are habitat for grassland songbirds and other declining species.

The LandTrust is proud to have completed its first prescribed burn on Land-Trust owned lands! On March 2nd, the North Carolina Division of Forest Resources (NC DFR) staff burned approximately 50 acres of fields on The Land-Trust's Capel Property.

"This burn will enhance the warm season native grasses on the property," LandTrust Uwharrie Conservation Specialist Crystal Cockman states. "The native prairie ecosystem is in decline, and is a critical habitat for grassland songbirds such as grasshopper sparrows and loggerhead shrike, as well as game species such as quail."

The LandTrust was able to contract NC DFR to do this prescribed burn through cost-share funding provided by the WHIP (Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program) administered by the Natural Resources Conservation Service. This program provides technical and financial assistance for landowners to manage lands for wildlife. Thanks to NRCS, DFR, and The LandTrust stewardship committee for making our first burn a huge success!



Prescribed fire enhances prairie habitat, increasing plant diversity including native wildflowers like these Atamasco lilies

# **Raptor Program at Dan Nicholas**

On Saturday, October 16<sup>th</sup>, approximately 60 people enjoyed a free program on raptors at Dan Nicholas Park in Salisbury. The program was conducted by the Carolina Raptor Center and staff from Rowan Wildlife Adventures. Participants heard about the Carolina Raptor Center's work to rehab injured raptors and saw a live falconry demonstration by Bob Pendergrass, supervisor Rowan Wildlife Adventures. We enjoyed a spectacular



The LandTrust would like to thank supporter and volunteer Bob Pendergrass.

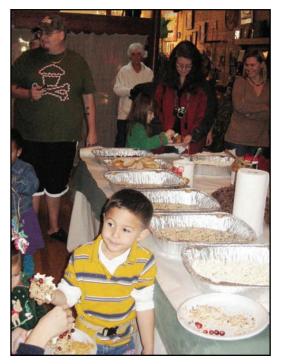


October Saturday with these magnificent creatures. Special thanks to Bob Pendergrass and staff from Carolina Raptor Center for making this such a special event.

# **Ornament Making at Green Goat**

Approximately 40 children helped us make wildlife-friendly ornaments at our annual Ornament Making Party the Green Goat Gallery in Spencer on Saturday, December 4<sup>th</sup>. Children made ornaments out of materials such as oatmeal, bird seed, bread, and cranberries that could be hung outside and eaten by birds and other wildlife. After ornaments, children decorated their own gingerbread men and women. Special thanks to the Green Goat





Gallery in Spencer for providing lots of treats and being a great host at another wild and wooly ornament making bash.

# **Strenuous Hike in Birkheads**



On November 20th, ten brave souls set out in the wilds of the Uwharries on a five hour tour. A mere 11.25 miles later, they did arrive safely back to their cars, a little tired and sore but refreshed in spirit and energized in soul. The LandTrust is thankful to all who came out for this strenuous but worthwhile event in the Birkhead Wilderness Area, the only federally designated wilderness area in the Piedmont. The Birkheads boast nearly 6,000 acres of wild and open forest, where only low impact recreation is allowed; no horses, bikes, or ATVs. The hike started from the new parking area off Tot Hill Road. Previously, parking was limited to the highway right-of-way, and the new parking area is a much utilized and appreciated amenity.

In addition to enjoying the beautiful fall colors and babbling brooks, attendees also learned the history of the wilderness area. This included a stopover at the historic Bingham graveyard, with over 40 unmarked graves of those who once lived and farmed these lands that now are recovering their wild nature. U.S. Forest Service District Ranger, Deborah Walker, joined us and explained the management philosophy of the wilderness area. Maintenance of trails should be conducted with hand tools only (no chainsaws) so those who visit can experience true nature without any modern day sights and sounds. The quiet experienced during our hike was only disturbed by the leaves rustling beneath our feet, or the occasional squirrel scampering, or woodpecker knocking-a wonderful way to experience what wilderness is supposed to mean.

# **Uwharrie Mountain Festival Hike**

The fifth annual Uwharrie Mountain Festival was held on October 9th, and The LandTrust led a wildflower and heritage hike during this fantastic event. Attendees set out from the Eldorado Outpost and caravanned through winding mountain roads to The LandTrust's 1288-acre Low Water Bridge Preserve for a short hike. One the way, we stopped to admire native wildflowers that grow all along roadsides in the Uwharries, such as the *liatris* or feathered gayflower in the pic-



ture to the left. These Piedmont prairie associated plants need sunlight, and in the absence of the open savannas



that used to dominant the landscape as a result of frequent fires, they are now relegated to roadside and utility right-ofways. At the Low Water Bridge Property, attendees stopped to examine a historic graveyard, before walking a well-worn path down to the Uwharrie River. The remains of an old pumping station associated with historic gold mining activity of the region were also viewed on this natural and historical trek.

### **RiverDance 2010 Rocks Again!**

On Saturday evening, August 14th, over 350 guests dined and danced to support the work of The LandTrust. **Margaret and William Nobles** chaired the event, and led an outstanding committee. **Brenda Goodman and Meredith Sullivan** were responsible for the festive decorations which included suspended silk dragonfly kites. Guests enjoyed a delicious cocktail buffet prepared by **Best Impressions**, and danced the night away to the sounds of **Risse**. Over **\$40,000** was raised which will be used for ongoing land protection along the Yadkin and South Yadkin Rivers.

Committee members included Andrea Anders and Michael Bitzer, Jennifer and Patrick Baker, Gwin and Matt Barr, Lynn and Robert Bertram, Heather and Brad Brady, Ann and Bucky Cline, Robin and Steve Fisher, Brenda and Franco Goodman, Jessica and Nick Goodman, Amy and Will Goodnight, Emily and Wes Graham, Nancy and Wilson Graham, Emily Hunter, Addie Laurie and Richard Reamer, Starr and Vic Shive, Luanne and Chip Short, Carole and David Simmons, Nichole and Erron Towns, and Beth and Paul Woodson.



Dancers enjoy music by Risse.



### **Upcoming Excursions and Events**

#### • Nature Walk at Spencer Woods, April 30th

Join the LandTrust and Catawba College Center for the Environment's Lisa Wear on this wildlife walk!

#### • Little River Make-up Canoe Trip, May 15th Little River trip take two! RSVP quickly for this event as space is limited and spots fill up fast!

#### • Annual Meeting, June 4th Come out for a special treat as the Webb Farm in Richmond County, a quail hunting preserve, is hosting us this year!

#### • RiverDance 2011—August 20th! Mark your calendars and make plans now to attend our annual fundrasising gala to support land conservation!

# **Special Thanks to Our Interns!**

The LandTrust would like to offer a special thank you to our 2010 interns. This summer we were fortunate to have three interns from Duke University through the Stanback Internship Program. Stephanie McNamara is pursuing her Master of Environmental Management, and for her masters project is completing a comprehensive conservation plan for the Little River. Elizabeth Lott is getting a dual Master of Environmental Management and



Master of Forestry, and completed a PR video for The LandTrust on Forestry for Wildlife. Katie Margillow is a senior at Duke and is compiling a report on the Land and Water Conservation Fund, its



history and funding. All three interns also spent their time at The LandTrust helping with the day-to-day operations including grant writing, assisting with wildlife surveys and field work, kayaking, and generally learning about nonprofit work and the diversity of the Piedmont of NC.

Ben Fisher is a native of Salisbury and a senior at NC State University studying wildlife and fisheries biology. He worked with The LandTrust during his fall semester and his main project was compiling a history of The LandTrust. Thanks so much to all our interns!

# Many Thanks To Our Supporters!

Your donations will allow us to continue "Saving the Places You Love" in the Piedmont Region. The following are **new** or renewing members from **January 1, 2010** through **February 15, 2011**. Every effort has been made to ensure that these names are correct. Should there be an error, or if you have questions or comments, please contacts us at (704) 647-0302. Thanks for supporting The LandTrust!

#### Heartland 100 (Golden Oak)

**\$5,000 and up** Dr. and Mrs. Charles F. Floyd Ms. Amy Grissom Mr. Scott Shaver G. W. Smith Lumber Company Mr. and Mrs. Fred Stanback Mr. and Mrs. William C. Stanback

#### Heartland 100 (Maple)

*\$2,500 - \$4,999* Mr. Peter Wilson Hairston Mr. and Mrs. Ronald L. Horton, Sr. Mr. Jason Ingram Innes Street Drug Company Ms. Carla R. Pense Mr. Rednecheck Mr. and Mrs. Mark C. Ritchie Mr. and Mrs. Robert B. Tucker

#### Heartland 100 (Dogwood) \$1,000 - \$2,499

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Uwharrie Wheelmen Mr. and Mrs. Jason Albert Walser Ms. Sue Carter Walser Walser Technology Group Mr. and Mrs. John Michael Walter Mr. and Mrs. James G. F. Whitton Mary and Elliott Wood Foundation The Margaret C. Woodson Foundation Woodson Sayers Lawther Short Parrott Walker and Abramson

#### \$500 - \$999 (Benefactor)

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#### \$100 - \$249 (Sustaining)

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In honor of Crystal Cockman Mr. Jeff Prather, NC Native Plant Society

In honor of Farmer Historic Preservation Society Mr. George E. Greer and Dr. Becky H. Greer

In honor of Don and Bethany Fortner Mr. and Mrs. Robert Stephen Setzer

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In honor of Sue Carter Walser Dr. and Mrs. Ralph L. Bentley Ms. Sarah G. Borders Drs. Douglas and Laurel Eason Mr. and Mrs. C. Layton Getsinger Mr. and Mrs. Robert W. Stamey

In honor of Andrew Waters' birthday Mr. and Mrs. Timothy C. Klaus

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In memory of Betty Barber Cobb Dr. and Mrs. Charles F. Floyd

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In memory of Terry Stevens Mrs. Terrell E. Stevens

In memory of Bert Walser Mr. William E. Hollan, Jr. Mr. and Mrs. Ned Alton Storey

### Philanthropy for the Long Haul–Ways to Give

There are many ways to make legacy gifts to The LandTrust. Many offer immediate tax benefits to the donor, while some deferred gifts can reduce capital gains and estate taxes for heirs. Your attorney or financial advisor can help you determine the most suitable gift arrangement for you and your family. If you decide to make a deferred gift, you can easily add The LandTrust to your will through an amendment called a codicil.

STEWARDSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND GIFTS In addition to your annual membership gifts, which fund the operating budget, you can contribute to the future sustainability of The LandTrust for Central North Carolina by a gift to the Stewardship Endowment Fund in the following ways:

**Cash:** Gifts of cash are fully deductible up to 50% of your adjusted gross income; any excess may be carried over and deducted for as many as 5 subsequent years. You can make a special, restricted gift to The LandTrust's Stewardship Endowment or for a particular project.

**Gifts of Stock**: A gift of stock owned one year or longer generally offers two benefits: You receive an income tax deduction for the fair market value of the stock, and you avoid paying capital gains tax if the stock has appreciated in value.

Gifts of Real Estate: You may own a residence, vacation home, acreage or vacant lot that has no particular conservation value, but having appreciated over the years it would incur a sizeable capital gains tax if sold. By donating such land (with the intention it will subsequently be sold by The LandTrust) you may avoid capital gains tax and may also receive a charitable deduction for the fair market value of the property.

#### DEFERRED GIFTS

Often referred to as "a painless way of giving", deferred gifts provide many donors an opportunity to make an even greater contribution to The LandTrust than they are able to do in their lifetimes. Types of deferred gifts include:

Bequests: An outright gift of cash could be specified in your will, either as a designated dollar amount or as a percentage of your estate. Gifts of securities, bonds, real estate or other assets may be specified. You could name The LandTrust as a remainder beneficiary to receive funds only after specific sums are paid to individuals.

Life Insurance: A tax-deductible gift of whole or universal life insurance can be made by naming The LandTrust as owner and beneficiary. You could purchase a new policy or donate a policy that you currently own but no longer need.

**IRA, 401(k) or Pension Plan**: You can avoid both income and estate tax on the remainder left in your retirement plan if you make The LandTrust the beneficiary.

**Charitable Remainder Trusts**: You can fund a charitable remainder trust with cash or property and receive income from the assets for your lifetime, while qualifying for a charitable deduction, and reducing potential capital gains and estate taxes. Upon your death and/ or that of a loved one, the trust assets will be distributed outright to The LandTrust.

**Charitable Lead Trust**: You can transfer assets to a trust that makes payments to The Land-Trust for a specified number of years, after which time the assets are transferred to your heirs, with little or no estate and gift taxes.



Boy scouts carefully pick their route across a stream in the 6,000 acre Birkhead Wilderness Area.



Division of Forest Resources County Ranger Scott Maynor and staff conduct LandTrust's first prescribed burn.



Protecting vernal pools benefits amphibians such as this spotted salamander found in Montgomery County.

#### THE LANDTRUST FOR CENTRAL NORTH CAROLINA

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

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