



Site Lines

FALL 2012

SOUTH KINGSTOWN
LAND TRUST

THIS JUST IN! 44-ACRE HISTORIC PERRYVILLE DONATION

SKLT is very excited to announce the donation of 44 acres of beautiful forest land in Perryville. Located off Gravelly Hill Road and bordering on Bullhead Pond, this undisturbed natural habitat in the unusual pine barrens ecosystem is an area also important for groundwater quality protection and critical habitat for rare species. It abuts other SKLT protected property near our DuVal hiking trail. SKLT is very grateful to Maude Bivins for this gift of land.

For many years, nearly 90 acres here were owned by Virginia Jones, a longtime SKLT supporter who loved this area since her youth. The daughter of Dr. John Paul Jones, one of the founders of South County Hospital, Virginia regularly visited her camp on Gravelly Hill Road after moving to North Carolina. Following her death in 2008, her heir Maude Bivins gifted a conservation easement on 72 acres to The Nature Conservancy and made an outright gift of another 11 acres to SKLT. The existing camp house and surrounding area are now being purchased by the property's longtime caretakers, and most of the fee title, 44 acres, has been given to SKLT. The donation



provides duplicate protection of the land, for which we and most conservation organizations strive.

Land preservation was very important to Virginia – her wishes to keep her property in its natural state have been honored through these transactions. SKLT thanks her family for helping to preserve South Kingstown's important natural lands.

JUST IN TIME FOR COOLER WEATHER...



Photo: Claudia Swain

As a result of our land management programs, SKLT has firewood for sale! The wood is mostly oak and maple, cut to 3-4 foot lengths in varying diameter, ready for your custom cutting and splitting. The price is \$50 for a standard pick-up truck load. Call Michael Bontecou at 742-4515 for directions and times to pick up.

SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE – SKLT EVENTS THIS FALL

Please RSVP for any or all of these events to Jane.Baumann@sklt.org. All of them will take place at the SKLT Barn. We hope to see you soon!

Wednesday, October 17th at 6:30pm – registration is required, seating is limited.

Living on the Edge: Life at Roy Carpenter’s Beach

This project explores Roy Carpenter’s Beach in Matunuck, as a model for understanding how a coastal community will be affected by storm damage and sea level rise. Presenters include photographer Kathie Florsheim, RI CRMC geologist Janet Freedman, architect/planner Kenneth Filarski, and URI landscape architecture professor Angelo Simeone. Roy’s is a seasonal community of 377 individually-owned cottages that sit on 50 acres of land. It is a small, and therefore manageable, area to study. In recent history, 2005 brought the remnants of tropical storms Rita and Wilma, which destroyed the roadway in front of the first seaward row of cottages, and damaged the general store so badly that the owners relocated and elevated it 100 feet inland. In 2007, the store parking lot, in its new location, was lost during another storm. And so it goes...with each storm prediction comes the dread that there will be more loss. The much loved and treasured Roy’s is at the mercy of the sea, and will unfortunately face a future of threats of severe alteration or destruction with each coastal storm that makes landfall in Matunuck.



Monday, October 29th from 4pm to 6pm.

Fireside Storytelling and Jack-O-Lantern Glow-In with Marc Levitt

Bring your lawn chair and carved pumpkin for our special Halloween event with storyteller Marc Levitt, who’s been telling stories at schools, libraries, theaters and festivals throughout the United States and internationally for over twenty-five years. His collection of Halloween stories, set in New England, won the “Golden Head Set” Award for the Best Children’s Audio Tape of 1994. We’ll start with stories appropriate for all ages. As the sun goes down, we’ll light up the carved pumpkins for a Glow-In along the stone walls and more stories for ages 8 and up. Get a free tee shirt when you bring a carved pumpkin! A suggested donation of \$5 per person or \$10 per family will benefit the SKLT. We thank Marc for doing this wonderful program.

Thursday, December 6th at 6pm, bring potluck appetizers – locally grown for extra points!
Building a Local Food System: A Discussion with Farm Fresh RI and South County Producers and Consumers

Join us for a discussion with Noah Fulmer, of Farm Fresh RI and staff from the Alternative Food Co-op, to discuss the Market Mobile – a wildly successful local food aggregation/distribution hub. Market Mobile brings together food from 50 local farmers and sells to local chefs, grocers, hospitals, and schools. Come learn how Market Mobile is helping local agriculture thrive, increasing the freshness of menus and produce aisles in South Kingstown and other towns, and sustaining the health of our farms, our environment and our communities.



On August 12th, more than 180 people enjoyed SKLT’s annual Great Outdoors Celebration and Auction. It was a wonderful success! Louis Raymond of Renaissance Gardening was again our very entertaining auctioneer. One of the auction highlights was the 16-family Purple Martin birdhouse, a replica of the SKLT Barn, designed and built by the URI Master Gardeners. Thanks to all the guests, donors, sponsors and our honorary chair, Troy West.



Photo: Perry Jeffries

SKLT SALUTES SOME LOCAL LAND CONSERVATORS

SKLT salutes **Jerry Lynch, blueberry king of SK!** Jerry donated 60 blueberry bushes to the land trust to use however we wish. We offered them to our members for a modest fee and sold out in 2 hours! To meet demand, we bought more from Jerry at a much reduced rate and sold those too. We are so grateful to Jerry for his generous donation. Next summer we will bake him a pie with all those blueberries!



Alex DeLuca, a Scout in Troop 44 Matunuck, is doing his Eagle Scout project to benefit the South Kingstown Land Trust this November. He’ll be constructing a new kiosk at the DuVal trailhead off Old Post Road in Perryville. Alex is looking for donations

for materials to build the kiosk, which he estimates at \$300. If you are interested in donating to this project, please come by the Wakefield office with your donation, or send it to our Wakefield office with “ATTN: DuVal Kiosk Project” on the envelope. Thank you.

Thanks also to **Tom and Helen Rowe-Drake** who included SKLT’s Grist Mill Fund as one of three favorite charities at their big July celebration in Westerly. It was a great affair – cake & ice cream, a photo booth, and wonderful Andean folk music – we’re very grateful that Tom and Helen chose to let their friends and family know more about SKLT.



Save These Dates - Events at SKLT Barn (unless noted)

Oct 13 & 27	English Country Dances, 7:30 - 10:30pm
Oct. 17	Living on the Edge talk, 6:30pm*
Oct. 29	Storytelling and Pumpkin Glow, 4pm*
Nov. 10, 24	English Country Dances, 7:30 - 10:30pm
Nov. 17	Crawley Preserve hike, 2pm, meet at site, register* for directions
Dec. 6	Farm Fresh RI – Local Food System, 6pm* potluck appetizers

* Please register at jane.baumann@sklt.org or call 789-0962.

SOUTH COUNTY GARDEN CLUB AND SKLT TEAM UP TO SUPPORT A WINNING PROJECT

One of SKLT's hidden treasures is its American Chestnut Research Orchard. Located on Tuckertown Road, these two one-acre orchards play an important role in the reintroduction of the American chestnut into the

eastern woodlands habitat., decimated by a devastating blight in the early 19th century. Scientists have been working to restore these majestic and economically important trees to the landscape ever since.

We are thrilled to announce a generous \$13,000 donation from the South County Garden Club, which will allow us to continue and expand our work at the orchard. This gift was collected during the Garden Club's *Celebrate Matunuck* event this June. SKLT is fortunate to have strong partners in this effort. In addition to the South County Garden Club, SKLT works with URI Master Gardeners, who did the hard work of building the protective fencing, planting trees and nuts, and setting up an outstanding irrigation system. Additionally, The American Chestnut Foundation, a national non-profit organization dedicated to restoring the American chestnut tree to the eastern woodlands, provides ongoing information and networking resources as well as competitive funding. This type of teamwork among organizations in our state and across our region is a hallmark of our work at SKLT, and one of the main reasons we have been able to accomplish our mission so well.



Chestnut orchard partnership includes University of Rhode Island Master Gardeners: Earle Perkins and Gordon Jones, South County Garden Club members Annie Richardson, Chrissy Cocroft, Alex Reynolds, Camilla Lee, Kathleen Hahn and Anne O'Neill, and SKLT's Clark Collins, Mike Sherry, Kathleen & Anne. Photo: Nessa Richman

LAND TRUST DAYS A SMASHING SUCCESS!

On Sunday September 23rd, SKLT hosted the closing party for the first ever RI Land Trust Days! Land trust fans from across the state met at the Barn to celebrate all that the RI Land Trust Council and its individual land trust members have accomplished in the preceding six week period. There was music, a wine tasting, and cake - what's a party without cake? Thanks to Greenvale Vineyard in Portsmouth, Newport Vineyard, and Sakonnet Vineyard in Little Compton for the wine, and to Daddy's Bread in South Kingstown for bread. The program was led by RIDEM Director Janet Coit, who showcased highlights from Land Trust Days and described the bond issues coming up in November.

SKLT held two events for Land Trust Days. On opening day we partnered with The Nature Conservancy in hiking to the Anna Brewster camp on Long Pond; and



Land Trust Days hike at Weeden Farm in August

Photo: Nessa Richman

two weeks later we sponsored a wonderful hike around Weeden Farm ending at the campfire where we roasted hot dogs and had a good old fashioned summer picnic. If you missed them, I can assure you they were popular events and may be repeated in the future.

LAND PRESERVATION BOND COMING IN NOVEMBER

The RI General Assembly budget puts a \$20 million "Environmental Management" bond on this November's ballot (as Question 6) for voter approval. Question 6 includes \$9.5 million for land conservation programs, including farmland protection and local open space grants. While this is a modest proposal and less than the real funding needs for land conservation, it is responsible in the current economic climate and provides some funding so the state's land conservation programs can continue investing in - and growing - our outdoor economy.

Special thanks go to Rupert Friday, executive director of the RI Land Trust Council, for his work shepherding this legislation through both houses of the legislature on



behalf of all land trusts in the state. Now we need your help to build grassroots support. Please encourage your friends and family to VOTE YES for Question 6 "Environmental Management Bonds" to protect working farms and open space.

Additionally, the RI Land Trust Council is also supporting

Question 5 "Clean Water Bond."

Investing in green space and Bay restoration promotes healthier communities and a stronger economy. If you would like one of the "VOTE yes 5/6" buttons shown above, stop by our office to pick one up.

MILESTONES

We barely feel done with our busy and exciting summer, but SKLT is ready to embrace new adventures this fall! In this issue of SiteLines, this whirl of activity is evident – new land under protection in Perryville, great programs coming up, more support for our chestnut research orchard and, recently, the opportunity to host Rhode Island’s land trust community for the closing party of RI Land Trust Days. It was a fantastic event and a great way for land trust members from across the state to get to know one another while tasting wine, listening to music and eating cake.

You’ll also find details on the upcoming bond issue on November’s ballot – please spread the word to support the bonds for clean water and open space. SKLT depends on the funds that these bonds generate in our land acquisition and trail development work.

I hope to see you at one of our programs or on the trails!



Mike Sherry

LIKE SKLT ON FACEBOOK!

Another way to keep in touch with SKLT events and projects is on Facebook. We’re reviving our efforts to post photos and announce events in this format. If you use Facebook, please ‘like’ us!

SOUTH KINGSTOWN LAND TRUST

The mission of the South Kingstown Land Trust is to conserve and protect the natural resources and open spaces of our town for the enduring benefit of our community.

Officers

President: Michael A. Sherry
 Vice President: Paul Schurman
 Treasurer: Charles M. Lewis
 Secretary: Sophie Page Lewis

Trustees

Edward Cimilluca
 Martha Day
 James Farrell
 Linda Green
 Kathleen Peterson Hahn
 Kevin McDonough
 Doug McGovern
 Carolyn Moulthrop
 Peter Nunes
 Anne O’Neill
 Carroll Tickner

Staff

Joanne Riccitelli,
 Land Protection Director
 Clarkson Collins,
 Land Management Director
 Jane Baumann,
 Membership Coordinator
 Mike Bontecou,
 Land Operations Coordinator

Main Office
 227 Robinson Street, Wakefield, RI 02879
 401-789-0962
 Field Office (SKLT Barn)
 17 Matunuck Beach Road
 401-783-4999

Site Lines Designer, Cindy Sabato, Volunteer



CELEBRATING SUCCESS AT THE BUD BROWNING FARM

Over 50 SKLT supporters and members gathered in late July to celebrate the completion of the purchase of a conservation easement on the farmland at the Bud Browning Farm on Jerry Brown Farm Road. New owner Nick Papa told the crowd a bit about his plans to farm there – growing vegetables and herbs and pasturing cows – but first it’ll take some time to clear the fields. SKLT thanked everyone for their great support for the project – raising more from private donations than we’d hoped! Also on hand was Mike Moorman from NRCS, whose Farm and Ranchland Protection Program provided most of the funding for the purchase.



Photo: Ron Maine

JOIN US IN PRESERVING OPEN SPACE IN SOUTH KINGSTOWN

Your support for open space preservation continues to strengthen our organization and invigorate our work. Join or renew your membership, make a general donation, or become an EverGreen member! SKLT is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization so your donation is tax-deductible. As always, your generosity is greatly appreciated.

MEMBERSHIP:

- I would like to: Join Renew
- Individual\$30
 - Family\$50
 - Protector\$75
 - Steward\$100-\$249
 - Guardian\$250-\$499
 - Conservator\$500-\$999
 - Benefactor.....\$1000+

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Phone _____
 E-mail _____

GENERAL DONATION:

I’m already a member, but I would like to make a general donation. Please accept my check in the amount of \$_____.



I have already planned a gift to SKLT and qualify to be an EverGreen member through:

- Estate Plans Trust Other
- I am a landowner interested in preserving my land.
- Please contact me about making a Legacy gift.
- My employer will match my gift. I’ve enclosed a matching gift form.

Please make checks payable to:
 South Kingstown Land Trust
 227 Robinson Street, Wakefield, RI 02879



SOUTH KINGSTOWN LAND TRUST
227 ROBINSON STREET
WAKEFIELD, RI 02879

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Wakefield, RI
Permit No. 132

Site Lines



SOLVITUR AMBULANDO!

This Latin phrase means, roughly, “It is solved by walking.” Facing a tough problem, a gnarly worry, a writer’s block? Go for a walk; take a hike. And where better walk than one of SKLT’s six hiking trails? Come by the Robinson Street office for maps and directions or print them from our website - sklt.org.

Or take a guided hike with Clark Collins to the Crawley Preserve on Glen Rock Road, Saturday November 17 at 2pm. This property, in both South Kingstown and Richmond, is nearly 100 acres of upland forest and streams. Preserved in 2003 by SKLT and the Richmond Rural Land Preservation Trust, the property features beech, oak and the occasional white pine forest. Meet at the site, check our website for directions. RSVP to Jane.Baumann@sklt.org.

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DuVal Hiking Trail

Photo: Joanne Ricctelli

OPEN SPACE MAKES ALL THE DIFFERENCE