



NORTH CAROLINA COASTAL LAND TRUST

CoastLines

NEWS FOR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS OF THE COAST

VOLUME 11 ISSUE 2
FALL 2011

Brunswick Family Fun Day an Outstanding Success!



On September 10, 2011, the Coastal Land Trust hosted the Brunswick Family Fun Day at the Brunswick Nature Park in Winnabow, NC. More than 1,000 visitors and volunteers came out to experience kayaking, mountain biking, hiking, and hands on activities designed to introduce them to the park and the land trust. Special thanks to all our volunteers and our sponsors, The Orton Foundation, Wal-Mart, and Beach and Barn.

Numerous families enjoyed the nature activities and kayaking demos that were provided by our sponsors.



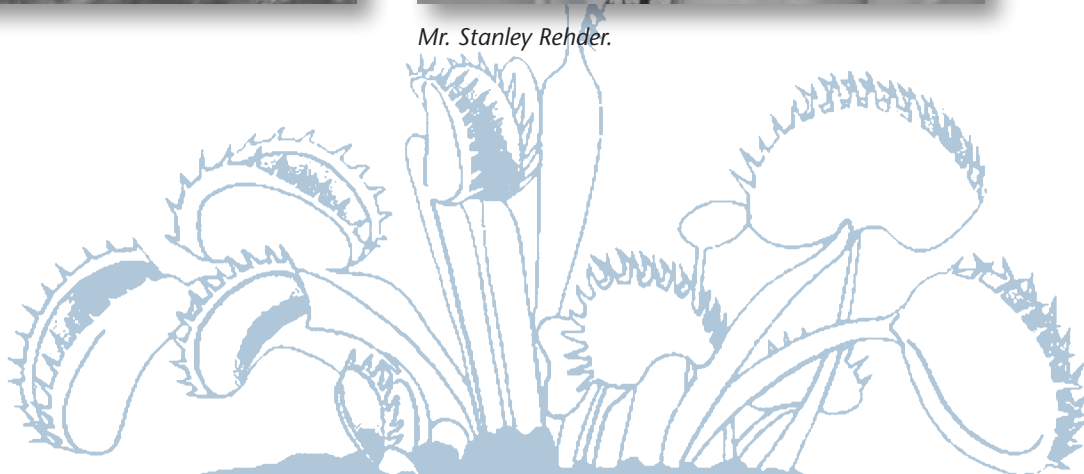
Flytrap Frolic...

On July 16, 2011, more than 300 guests visited the Alderman Nature Preserve in Wilmington, for our first "Flytrap Frolic." Students from Cape Fear Community College guided tours of the preserve and provided information on the carnivorous plants found along the trail. As a special treat, Stanley Rehder, who created the trail, spoke about the plants, along with Phil "Dr. Rocks" Garwood, a professor at CFCC.



Mr. Stanley Rehder.

Join us on
April 28, 2012 for our
next Flytrap Frolic!



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Board members serve three (3) year staggered terms. Board members are elected each year by the membership during the annual meeting.

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NC COASTAL LAND TRUST STATISTICS

Acres Protected. 48,000 Acres
Household Memberships 2093

EMAIL
info@coastallandtrust.org

WEBSITE
www.coastallandtrust.org

Pre-Press Composition & Printing By:
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PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

CHILDREN, NATURE AND THE COASTAL LAND TRUST

It is an exciting and challenging time for the North Carolina Coastal Land Trust. Our mission to preserve scientifically and ecologically important land in the coastal region is as pressing as it has ever been. Finding monies to protect these lands is increasingly challenging.

As we work to conserve more land along our coast, we are also working in fun and exciting ways to reach out to coastal communities and invite people onto the magnificent lands that are already protected. In this news letter you will read about the Fly Trap Frolic and the Brunswick Nature Park Family Fun Day. These

family, children, and community centered events brought all ages of visitors onto protected land to enjoy it and to learn about fly traps and picture plants and walking trails and places to kayak and more.

How exciting to offer ways for children to get onto the land and be part of providing educational opportunities for the next generation of environmentalists! I thank you for your support and look forward to working with you in the coming year.

Linda S. Murchison

DIRECTOR’S MESSAGE

FEELING GOOD ABOUT LAND CONSERVATION

Saving land with the Coastal Land Trust always makes you feel good, even if you’re sitting quietly indoors. You know that our streams, coastlines and rivers are cleaner; that our native plants and animals have more places to thrive, and that working farms can continue to produce healthy, delicious local food for our tables.

Saving land makes you feel better, in an intensely direct, personal way, if you’re outdoors visiting a place the Coastal Land Trust has saved. You view a beautiful sunset over the water, hear the soft whisper of pine needles in a forest, or walk quietly along a nature trail.

But the best, most joyous good feelings that come from saving land? That happens when you

view a Coastal Land Trust project through the eyes of children. Their wonder, as they discover ferns and pitcher plants, creeks and wetlands, butterflies and turtles, is just amazing to watch.

Thanks to your support, the Coastal Land Trust is working to get more kids on the land. Together, we’re making connections between kids and nature, we’re getting kids away from computer screens, we’re introducing kids to science, and we’re encouraging kids to walk, run, paddle and ride.

What a great feeling!

Camilla M. Herlevich

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Hats off to Non-Profit Organizations and Their Boards of Directors!

Did you ever stop to think how many good things would grind to a halt without non-profit organizations? Without big international groups that help in disasters? Without local soup kitchens and food pantries? Without the dozens of charities, large and small, that take our individual contributions and magnify them for the greater good? How do they do this? Well, the most critical factor in the success of any nonprofit is its volunteer leadership – the people who serve on the Board of Directors.

At its Annual Meeting in September, the Coastal Land Trust thanked several outgoing Directors, welcomed new ones, and elected officers. Thanks to the following outgoing Directors: Diana Corbett, whose enthusiasm, discipline and creativity resulted in successful events and fundraisers, including the first Flytrap Frolic; **Bobby Harrell**, whose expertise and kind manner made him the perfect leader of the Land Committee; founder **Michael Murchison**, whose wise judgment has continued to guide us off and on the Board for 20 years; and **David “Web” Webster**, who pioneered our efforts to diversify our Board and committees.

Board members elected to new terms include **Ken Shanklin**, a gifted attorney who donated thousands of dollars in pro bono assistance on a timber trespass case, and **David Huffine**, whose insistence that the organization pay attention to its finances helped navigate choppy waters.

Volunteer Officers for the new year are: Linda S. Murchison, President; Kevin Hicks, Vice President; Edward Norvell, Secretary; and Sadie Price, Treasurer. *Thanks to each!*

Kevin Hicks Appointed to National Land Trust Leadership Position

Kevin Hicks, Vice President of the Coastal Land Trust, has been appointed to the Members Management Committee (similar to a Board of Directors) for TerraFirma. TerraFirma is a new entity created to manage and insure the risks of land trusts, with the goal of helping land trusts defend their conserved lands from legal challenges, like trespass, condemnation, and violations of easements. *Congratulations, Kevin!*

LAND PROTECTION ACCOMPLISHMENTS



A Slice of Brown’s Island Conserved!

Tucked behind Harker’s Island “Down East” in Carteret County lies a slice of paradise- a 600+acre island known as Brown’s Island. Surrounded by East Bay, West Bay, The Straights and Core Sound, this estuarine island is undeveloped and in a natural state. In its interior, the island hosts stunted, windswept longleaf pine along with thick, nearly impenetrable hardwood sloughs and swamps. Its fringe is lined with lush, productive coastal marsh along with patches of sandy beach and tidal flats.

Yellow-crowned night herons, little blue herons, and tri-colored herons nest in the maritime forest and swamps, while black skimmers, American oystercatchers and glossy ibis feed along the shoreline. Brown’s Island is a mecca for native wildlife including many rare species like the stunning painted bunting and elusive black rail.

This summer the Coastal Land Trust and the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission purchased four parcels totaling over 158 acres: three parcels from the South Pender Development LLC and one parcel from Claudia Brown Evans, and her husband, Gene Evans. The purchase was made possible with grant funds from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and a private contribution from the Fred and Alice Stanback Fund. While Mrs. Claudia Brown Evans wished to sell her property for conservation, it was still bittersweet since the property, indeed at one time the entire island, had been in her family for over 100 years.

Mrs. Claudia Brown Evans, using information from an article written by Esther Brown Valentine for *Carteret County Heritage* (North Carolina Volume II) plus ideas from Rebecca Brown Paul, provides the following family history.

In February 1904, Julian Brown, his wife Annie, and their two young children traveled in a two-masted schooner captained by Mr. White from Beaufort County to Craney Island, later to be known as Brown’s Island. Julian had first heard of the island from a man from Carteret County while he was working in Beaufort County in 1901. After Julian came to see the property he started making arrangements to purchase it. Here on Brown’s Island, Julian became a farmer and stockraiser.

The family lived on the island for a number of years and their son, Julian Jr., was born there. With the children becoming older, Julian and Annie found it necessary to move to Gloucester and then to Marshallberg on the mainland. Julian continued earning his livelihood on the island by farming and selling beef and lamb to stores from Atlantic to Morehead City.

With only seven months of formal education, Julian schooled himself in many areas. Two of his hobbies were collecting Indian relics and the study of history which he enjoyed sharing with others. At Julian’s death in May 1961, Brown’s Island was left to his wife, and at her death in February 1963, the property was left to their seven children.

Ross Farm

In May, the Coastal Land Trust permanently conserved both a working farm and prime waterfowl habitat in Currituck County. The property, formerly known as the Ross Farm, near Poplar Branch, features productive farmland, timber land and extensive marshes along Neal’s Creek and the Currituck Sound in Currituck County. The conservation of this property not only fulfills the goal of the Coastal Land Trust’s Farm to Table initiative, which works to conserve local family farms, but also provides connectivity and a critical buffer to the adjacent Narrows Marshes, previously placed in conservation by The Audubon Society. The Coastal Land Trust worked with the

Slick family, a new owner of the Ross Farm, to permanently protect 59.199 acres of this working farm with a donated Agricultural Conservation Easement. The property provides one of the few privately-owned deep-water accesses to Currituck Sound thereby making it an ideal site for a water-front residential subdivision and marina development. The project protects cultivated farm fields, actively-managed wildlife habitat, prime waterfowl habitat, and the extensive marsh buffer system that has played such an integral role in the waterfowl and duck hunting heritage of Currituck County. The Coastal Land Trust is thrilled to have helped permanently conserve this valuable tract!

Luken’s Island

In July the Coastal Land Trust protected 375 acres on the South River in Carteret County adjacent to more than 1,000 acres of conservation lands near the Cedar Island National Wildlife Refuge. The property, owned by Lukens Island Timber Enterprises, hosts estuarine marsh, mixed pine-hardwood forests and over a mile of waterfront. It is a key tract targeted for protection by the Coastal Land Trust’s Cherry Point Encroachment Partnership project that aims to protect ecologically valuable land adjacent to the military bases from incompatible development. The Coastal Land Trust purchased a conservation easement on this property, representing Phase II of our Lukens Island partnership project with the NC Clean Water Management Trust Fund and the Navy. A Clean Water grant was awarded to protect the riparian buffer along the South River and Eastman Creek thereby preserving water quality for marine species and recreation. The Navy contributed funds to protect areas near the Piney Island Bombing range from residential development. The Coastal Land Trust negotiated with the landowners to come to an agreement, brought the partners together, wrote grant applications and managed the two closings. The first phase of the Lukens Island project, completed in December 2009, protected over 283 acres also on the South River. The Coastal Land Trust was recently approved for a grant from Clean Water to carry out Phase III of this important project!

The partners of the Lukens Island Timber Enterprises have been excellent landowners to work with throughout the years: even throwing a very successful fundraising party in Beaufort on Aug. 19th for the Coastal Land Trust and making generous contributions to our continuing conservation work.



Coastal Land Trust Adds Land to Everett Creek Preserve

This past October, the Coastal Land Trust acquired 92.33 acres of land in fee title near Sneads Ferry in Onslow County. The N.C. Clean Water Management Trust Fund and the Department of the Navy provided funds for the purchase as the property has water quality values and helps buffer the adjacent Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune from future encroachment. The property adjoins the Coastal Land Trust’s existing 148-acre Everett Creek Preserve (purchased in 2007) and has many noteworthy features including additional frontage along scenic Everett Creek, and stands of mature longleaf pine. The property also has a paved access road, an entrance gate, and a small caretaker’s residence. While this infrastructure was originally built to support a proposed residential development, the Coastal Land Trust views these as amenities for future public use of the site. Coastal Land Trust staff will stay busy managing this preserve. A prescribed burn is scheduled for this winter, nature trails are being conceptualized, and partnerships being formed to help us open this beautiful preserve up in the future for guided nature walks and educational field trips. Stay tuned!

DONOR SPOTLIGHT

JOHN HARRIS



John Harris founded Kitty Hawk Kites in 1974. Now a thriving business engrained in Outer Banks culture, it had humble beginnings. The business, with its original mission, to promote John’s passion - hang gliding, now boasts the world’s largest hang gliding flight school and 12 Outer Banks locations featuring aviation/outdoor clothing, kites, and adventure recreation activities - kayaking and kite surfing. John recently founded Kitty Hawk Surf Company, with five locations focused on surfing, stand-up paddle boarding, skim boarding, and kayaking.

You would never guess that John hails from a Missouri farm! After coming to North Carolina in 1970 to work with Western Electric, John’s first years were spent exploring the state - mountains to sea. John had an epiphany in 1973 when he saw a front page newspaper photo of a hang glider; he knew he wanted to fly! John bought a glider, headed to Jockey’s Ridge, and after countless treks up and down the great dune, learned to fly. John thought, “I enjoy this! Other people would enjoy doing this too!” Kitty Hawk Kites was born in a rented garage attached to the old Nags Head Casino; the rest is history!

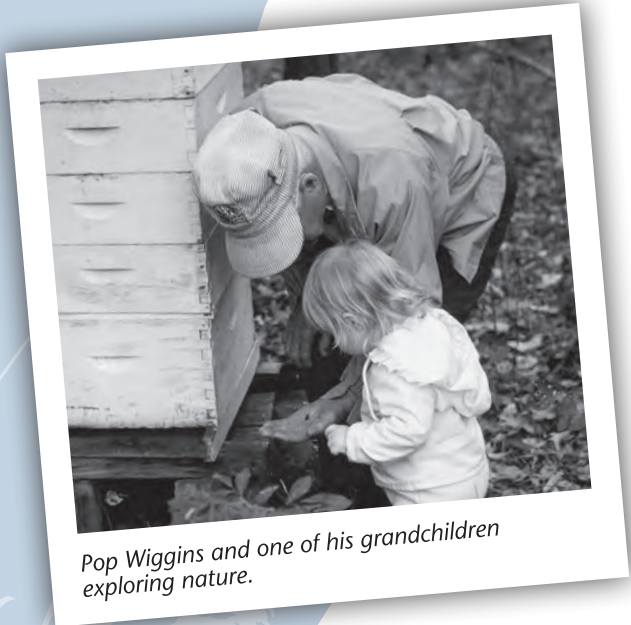
John was introduced to Coastal Land Trust in 2003, and has been an ardent supporter ever since! He admires the Coastal Land Trust’s “common sense approach to preserving land,” while still allowing recreational access where possible. “It is more and more common for use to be restricted on public lands,” he said. Many thanks, John, for your support!

WIGGINS FAMILY MAKES GENEROUS DONATION

The Coastal Land Trust received a generous gift of land this summer from Daniel I. Wiggins of Cincinnati, OH, Sally Wiggins Robinson of Washington, PA, Linda Wiggins Vinson of Murfreesboro, NC, and C. Aubrey Wiggins III of Raleigh, NC. The Coastal Land Trust worked with the Wiggins family and made the decision to accept the 15-acre property in Lenoir County as “trade lands” instead of conservation land due to its relatively small size and isolated nature. The Coastal Land Trust occasionally receives trade lands, such as residential lots or small properties that do not fit our land conservation criteria and that can be sold with the Donor’s understanding and permission. Proceeds from the sale of trade lands are used to help the organization’s mission *to save special places along the coast*.

The Coastal Land Trust sold the Wiggins’ trade lands property and is working with the Wiggins family to honor their grandfather, Pop Wiggins, who shared his love of land with them. We plan to name a trail after him, “Wiggins Woodland Warbler Walk” at our Everett Creek Preserve in Onslow County.

Here, the Wiggins family shares their thoughts about their beloved “Pop,” their motivation for making this donation to the Coastal Land Trust.



Pop Wiggins and one of his grandchildren exploring nature.

“Pop” Wiggins

Our grandfather, Carlis Aubie Wiggins, was born on October 3, 1890 at his family home in the Sharon community north of Kinston, North Carolina. All four of us have strong bonds to a special piece of land near his boyhood home a short distance from Sharon community. These 15 acres of pine and mixed hardwood forest with an acre in the center carved out for a bountiful vegetable garden, a row of apple trees, and several hives of honeybees were a sanctuary for him. A narrow wooded path flanked by diminutive huckleberry bushes led to this sunlit garden guarded by a perimeter of oaks, gums, poplars, and loblollies. He lovingly invited us every summer to this garden in the woods where we learned to share in his labor by helping pick butterbeans, pole beans, tomatoes, cucumbers, squash, corn, okra from stalks that sometimes reached 7 feet by summer’s end, and ‘Wiggins’ apples that were destined for pies and applesauce.

This tract of land is where we absorbed his knowledge of the myriad creatures and plants that grow there. He pointed out the spider in her web, her stunning capture and wrapping in silk of a grasshopper. We learned that the old folks used twigs from the black gum tree for toothbrushes. He taught us the call of the “bob white”. He helped us discern the carpenter bee from the bumblebee. He pointed out the funnels of the antlions that made their homes in the sandy soil. We experienced his tenderness toward cardinals, quail, wrens, “jo-rees”, kingbirds, and cottontail bunnies. We came to know him as an early conservationist, environmentalist, and naturalist.

With no viable prospects of permanently protecting this idyllic place of our childhood, the North Carolina Coast Land Trust agreed to take these woods as trade-lands to help protect larger swaths of coastal lands from development. In a small way, his grandchildren want to preserve and to share the essence of our “Pop” and his generous spirit through this gift of his beloved woods.

If you have subdivision lots or other real estate that you think could be donated to the Coastal Land Trust as “trade lands” which are sold to support our conservation work, please contact Cassie Gavin at 910/790-4524.

SPECIAL EVENTS



Leading the pack...



A few of the award winners.



After the race.

Land Rush for the Land Trust

More than 50 people joined us on Saturday, November 12th at the Brunswick County Nature Park for the inaugural Land Rush for the Land Trust- a 5k and 10k trail run. We wish to extend a thank you to all of our sponsors who made the event possible including: Great Outdoor Provision Company, Two Wheeler Dealer, The Orton Foundation, Walmart, Snapdragon Screen Printing, Patagonia, Brooks, Omega Sports, Merrell, Smart Wool, Osprey, Road ID, and the Adventure Company.

Beaufort Party at Front Street Village Marina

A beautiful setting on the water, delicious cuisine and animated conversation made for an enjoyable evening. . Thanks to all the hosts: Tommy & Wendy Batten, Doug & Carolyn Brady, Dr. Ed & Jayne Burton, Dr. Jerry & Valinda Coates, Tom & Jae Crawford, Dr. Greg & Dale Georgiade, John & Katherine Haroldson, Bill & Nancy Munden, Dr. George & Charlotte Sutton, Randy & Dana Uzzell and John & Susie Ward.

Cstore 8th Annual Golf Tournament

The Coastal Land Trust wishes to thank Hannah Holt and all those involved in the eight annual Holt/Cstore Golf Tournament held this past May at River Landing. If you are interested in joining us next year, contact Nancy Preston at nancy@coastallandtrust.org.

New Bern Party

The 5th annual Cocktails for the Coast was once again held at the historic downtown home of Bryan and Cheryl Smith on Saturday June 18th. Thanks to all who gathered under the tiki hut for music by local artist Stretch, great food and libations (think margaritas!). We wish to extend our thanks to our hosts who helped make the evening such a success and to our guests.

Twilight on Town Creek

Hosting the event with Cindy and Frank Henry were Claudia and Gene Evans and Frances and Jim Parnell. Dr. Parnell's slide show, which ran throughout the evening, contained magnificent nature photos taken during all seasons at the Henry Farm.

Manteo Sunset on the Soundside

Sunset on the Soundside was hosted by Coastal Land Trust Board members Beth Storie and Bobby Harrell, their respective spouses Michael McOwen and Deloris Harrell, Ray and Linda White and Gordon and Helen Jones at the Harrell's lovely home on Roanoke Island.

Outer Banks Land Trust Day and Coastal Partners

Outer Banks Land Trust Day was sponsored by a number of local businesses, including Kitty Hawk Kites, Kitty Hawk Surf Co., Nags Head Hammocks, Kitty Hawk Kayaks, and Village Realty of Outer Banks.,

Additionally, Front Porch Café, in Kill Devil Hills, Nags Head, and Manteo, and Chip's Wine and Beer Market, in Kill Devil Hills, contributed a portion of sale for the entire month of June to the Coastal Land Trust! Ride the Wind Surf Shop in Ocracoke also sponsored two kayak tours.



Ren and Tina Williamson



Frank and Cindy Henry at the wheel with Camilla Herlevich and Gene and Claudia Evans at Twilight on Town Creek.



Camilla, Cindy Henry, Frank Henry, and Beth Steelman.

Reminder!!

The Coastal Land Trust is now a member of EarthShareNC! Look for us in the **2011 State Employees Combined Campaign** and the **2011 Combined Federal Campaign**. Please look for **NCCLT (SECC #1113, CFC # 91392)** and **EarthShare North Carolina (SECC #1100, CFC#15322)** when you designate your gift. *Thank you!*

2011 HONOR ROLL OF DONORS

The North Carolina Coastal Land Trust expresses our gratitude to the families, foundations, and corporations who made a gift during our fiscal year (October 1, 2010-September 30, 2011). Your support helps us fulfill our mission, protecting the beauty, history, and the natural treasures of the NC coastal plain. Thanks for your support!

*If you have questions or would like to change the listing of your name in our publications, please contact Vann Pearsall at (910) 790-4524 ext. @20

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SAVE THE DATE!

February 2nd	Red Beans & Bluegrass Party - Kefi's, Wilmington
April 28th	Flytrap Frolic - Alderman Elementary School in Wilmington
May 5th	Cyclists Going Coastal - New Bern
June 2nd	Land Trust Day/BW Wells Hike - Wilmington & Greenville

North Carolina
LAND TRUSTS
Saving the Places You Love

Visit the Coastal Land Trust website at www.coastallandtrust.org for more information on these upcoming events

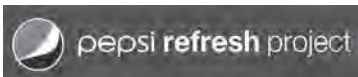


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There's a Place for You as a Land Trust Volunteer!

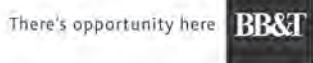
Whether your interests lie in the great outdoors or at the conference table, we have a volunteer opportunity for YOU! If you have volunteered for the Land Trust in the past and haven't heard from us in a while, contact us so that we can confirm your contact information and find out what interests you most. If you have never volunteered for the Land Trust, and one of the above grabs your attention, don't hesitate, call or email today. To learn more, contact: Beth Steelman at 790-4524 ext. 200 or bsteelman@coastallandtrust.org.

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