

The Confluence

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May 2009

The quarterly newsletter of
Triangle Land Conservancy

President's Letter
page 2

Members of the Month
page 3

White Pine seedlings
page 4

Flower Hill makeover
page 5

Our Water, Our Land
pages 6-7

Discovery at Irvin Farm
page 8

Wishlist
page 9

Eleanor Pegg remembered
page 11

Injured hawk takes wing at Theys Farm



On a cold, bright January morning, Sunny Allen drove six hours to pick up and deliver a very special package. Tucked gently into a large cardboard box was a female red-tailed hawk traveling the last leg of a long road (or should we say flight?) to recovery.

Sunny had found her with a broken wing in October at Theys Farm, a TLC conservation easement property near Lake Wheeler in Wake County. After three months of repair, rest and rehab, the hawk was ready to go wild again.

Before a small knot of observers, including some of the horses who call the cooperative stable at Theys Farm home, Sunny opened the cardboard box in the middle of a pasture and stepped back. After slowly stretching her wings – which can take a while when you have a four-foot wingspan – the hawk shot out of the box, soared across the pasture and landed in a tree on the

woods edge to get her bearings.

“One short flight for a hawk, little did she know our hearts were soaring with her,” Sunny recalled.

Photographer James Bengel missed the first flight shot but was able to capture the moment when she soared away for good.

“We haven’t seen her gracing the skies at Theys Farm since her release,” said Sunny, “but it’s good enough just knowing she is flying free somewhere.”

See more photos of the hawk release at <http://picasaweb.google.com/mojo1160/RedTailReleasePartyTheylandStables>

TLC protects important open space—stream corridors, forests, wildlife habitat, farmland and natural areas—to help keep the Triangle region a healthy and vibrant place to live and work.

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Join us in June

Dear Friends,

The highlight for me every year is the Green Jamboree, when TLC members and supporters gather to celebrate the past year's accomplishments, honor volunteers, and recognize those who generously donated land and conservation easements.

A few years ago, we emphasized the celebration aspect of our annual meeting and turned the Jamboree into a party. Last year

we took it one step further and held it at Triangle Land Conservancy's Irvin Farm, a beautiful and important conservation spot in southern Orange County.

We will return to Irvin Farm this year—**mark your calendar for Saturday June 20**—and look forward to hosting our largest member gathering ever!

Once again the Green Jamboree will feature great music, delicious local food, and kid-friendly activities. We are adding something else this year that really excites me. TLC will reach out to members who attend the Jamboree to seek opinions and input on TLC's conservation priorities.

With the help of experts in the conservation field, Triangle Land Conservancy's board of directors last year adopted an ambitious long-term goal of doubling the pace of conservation and permanently conserving 45,000 acres

over the next 15 years. As with the 13,000 acres already conserved, TLC will continue to work collaboratively and use only voluntary, incentive-based conservation strategies.

The lands that TLC has identified have great conservation value. They keep our water clean and plentiful, produce food available to all of us at our local farmers markets, grocers and restaurants, provide habitat for the Triangle's wildlife, and give us a chance to explore nature. In short, these lands make the Triangle a better place to live.

So, join us on June 20 for good company and a great time. You will also have a chance to chart a course for local land conservation.

Kevin M Brice



The Bluegrass Experience will return to Irvin Farm for Green Jamboree

Members of the Month



May Elizabeth Anderson

Elizabeth Anderson feels a special connection to White Pines Nature Preserve. Prior to her involvement in the sale of a parcel of land that is now part of the preserve, Elizabeth would hike among the towering pines. "I have enjoyed that land enormously, with the old home site and periwinkle," says Elizabeth. "It certainly has become such a wonderful place for many people." Her love of the White Pines area is what sparked her interest in TLC and her membership since 1986. A realtor since 1975, Elizabeth has focused her career on land transactions with an emphasis on conscience and conservation. In her spare time, she is an active volunteer for Habitat for Humanity, Heads Up! therapeutic riding program and the Chatham PTA thrift shop. She has been involved in several fundraisers, including the campaign to protect Endor Iron Furnace and campaigns for the local library and Habitat for Humanity. Elizabeth enjoys plants, especially wildflowers, and dogs. In fact, her dog, Lavender, goes to work with her every day.

June Rachel & Alec Bethune

Chapel Hill residents Rachel and Alec Bethune were drawn to TLC because they feel one of the best things about the Triangle is the ability to get on a trail and enjoy green space in so many areas. Growing up in the Triangle, Alec has seen a lot of change in this region over the years, which has spurred an interest in conservation. "I like the idea of thinking globally and acting locally," says Alec. "Being a member of TLC is a nice way to be able to make a difference locally." Alec works in GIS mapping and project management for the NC Center for Geographic Information and Analysis, and Rachel coordinates and develops IT training at Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Carolina. When not working, Rachel and Alec enjoy taking their German shorthair pointer, Ally, out into nature and onto local trails, including TLC's White Pines and Johnston Mill nature preserves.



July Amy & Todd Klaenhammer

Minnesota natives Amy and Todd Klaenhammer met while pursuing degrees at the University of Minnesota, and have been in Wake County since Todd accepted a professorship at NCSU in 1978. The Klaenhammers live very close to TLC's Swift Creek Bluffs Nature Preserve. Amy has served as a site steward for the property and remembers walking the property long before TLC protected it. Amy has also done trail maintenance, trail building, trash pick-up, and has even dismantled tree-forts at Swift Creek Bluffs. The Klaenhammers keep two horses at the equestrian co-op on the Theys Farm property, which was protected by TLC in 2000.

Visit triangleland.org each month for a more in-depth look at these wonderful TLC members!

White pine seedlings foster program

The leaves rustle and twigs snap under our feet as the TLC Trail Crew treks off the trail at White Pines Nature Preserve in search of seedlings.

"They have bundles of five needles, and if you look closely, you'll see a white line on each needle," says Walt Tysinger, TLC's Land Manager. "In the older trees, you'll notice the branches circle the trunk. Every year, they grow another whirl of branches, so you can tell how old a white pine is by counting the whirls."

We head toward the "nursery," a flagged area of the forest. Nestled among several large white pines, this area should be filled with seedlings.

"Let's fan out and look for a seedling. Shout when you find one," says Walt.

The small army of volunteers carefully tiptoes through the leaves.

Suddenly the din of the rustling leaves is broken by a shout and we rush over to see.

As soon as we crouch to inspect the seedling, we notice numerous tiny trees poking through the leaves.

Walt shows us how to dig up the seedlings, carefully protecting their winding roots. In an effort spearheaded by Jesse Perry, Director of Public Programs at the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences, the seedlings will be sent to Taylor's Nursery in Raleigh to grow larger and stronger.

At White Pines Nature Preserve, the seedlings grow weakly in the shade of their parents. At the nursery, the trees are cared for and provided with plenty of sunshine. In a few years, once the trees are over a foot tall and much more resil-

ient, they will be returned to more open sites among the rolling hills of White Pines.

White Pines Nature Preserve is home to stands of white pine trees left behind after the last ice age 12,000 years ago.

These are the only stands of white pine found in the eastern Piedmont of North Carolina – 75 miles farther east than their nearest kin in the Stokes County mountains near Hanging Rock State Park.

If left on their own, each seedling has about a one-in-a-thousand chance of surviving the next few years. The immediate danger for the seedlings is deer. Repeatedly, deer nibble off the lead stem, setting the plant back a year in growth each time. The long-term danger for the white pines is dramatic climatic change. White Pines Nature Preserve needs to have as much genetic diversity as possible, so some trees tolerant of a warmer climate will survive.

In addition, white pine trees are not fire-tolerant. If a wildfire would burn through White Pines Nature Preserve, the fire-tolerant loblolly would quickly take over the forest. However, thanks to Perry, there is always a supply of about 200 seedlings from the preserve growing in a greenhouse. If the current white pine population were decimated, trees with the same genetics could be planted to repopulate the forest.

It is important to keep the same genetics, because, according to a recent study,

the white pine trees in Chatham County have a different life strategy than the white pines from other regions. Elsewhere, white pines are an early succession tree, meaning when land is cleared, these trees are the first to grow. In the



JENNIFER PETERSON

A volunteer collects a white pine seedling

Piedmont, loblolly pine and sweet gum are the early succession trees. White pines do not grow very tall until the surrounding trees fall, opening up the canopy and providing the white pine with more light.

"We need to protect the white pines, not only through conserving the land, but also by helping the seedlings reach maturity," Perry says. "Finding these trees this far east is very special, and these particular trees differ genetically from their cousins in other regions. We have to do what we can to keep this stand of trees as vibrant and healthy as we can."

Workshop aims to help 'Keep the Farm'

NC Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler (right) welcomed 200 farmers and landowners to Wake County's January 28 "Keeping the Farm" workshop.

Dale Threatt-Taylor (middle), director of the Wake Soil & Water Conservation District and a TLC board member, led the multi-agency team that planned the event. The workshop shared ideas for farmers and landowners to keep their working lands profitable, which in turn keeps working lands working.

TLC's Jon Scott (left) and Tandy Jones were among the presenters providing information on topics such as conservation options, innovative options for income, and agricultural alternatives.



DALE NICHOLS

TLC receives grant to protect Neuse Basin in Johnston County

By Jon Scott,
Conservation Project Manager

In February, TLC was awarded a \$180,000 grant to protect water quality within the Neuse River Basin in Johnston County. The funding comes through an Environmental Enhancement Grant (EEG) from the NC Attorney General's office. Funding for the EEG program was provided by Smithfield Foods and its subsidiaries through an agreement with the NC Attorney General.

The EEG Program provides reimbursement grants to organizations working on projects which will "improve, maintain, and encourage environmental enhancement in the State of North Carolina, with particular focus on environmental issues associated with the swine industry."

The three-year grant will help sustain TLC's efforts to acquire land and conservation easements along streams within the county. Although the grant provides funding for work throughout the Neuse Ba-

sin in Johnston County, primary focus will be given to the Neuse River Lowgrounds and Mill Creek watershed.

Located south of Smithfield in Johnston County, the Neuse Lowgrounds is a vast area of rural, mostly forested land along the Neuse River. This region is known for its unique and rare natural communities, with several areas designated as significant by the NC Natural Heritage Program.

Mill Creek is a major tributary to the Neuse, converging with the river several miles downstream from Smithfield. The Mill Creek watershed harbors several unique natural areas as well as the culturally significant Bentonville Battleground Historic Site.

The grant will provide funding to update an existing conservation plan for the Neuse Lowgrounds, ex-



Great Blue Heron, Neuse River Lowgrounds

panding the study area to include the Mill Creek watershed. These funds will also provide education and outreach on the benefits of voluntary land conservation to area landowners and contribute to the costs of completing land and conservation easement acquisitions within the Neuse Basin in Johnston County.

Flower Hill gets spring makeover

Check out the improved Flower Hill! Thanks to the Johnston County Recreation Grant Program, TLC has been able to spruce things up at our favorite "freak of nature" in Johnston County.

The grant program awarded TLC \$8,000 last year for access improvements. TLC is using the funds to build a small parking area which will provide much safer access for visitors. We will



Spring beauties at Flower Hill.

also improve the hiking trails and signage, and install benches. A self-guided interpretive component is in development.

Located in northeast Johnston County, the Flower Hill area is important both for its ecological diversity and cultural history as a recreational gathering place for the community.

The name Flower Hill comes from the abundance of Catawba rhododendron found on the steep, north-facing bluffs overlooking Moccasin Creek. The Catawba rhododendron, more commonly found in the mountains of North Carolina, was first documented here by famed botanist B.W. Wells in the late 1930s. It was Wells who is reputed to have called the area "a freak of nature."

The area was strongly promoted and became well-known as a distinctive natural treasure in the region, attracting thousands of visitors annually at its height of

popularity in the mid-1930s.

TLC acquired the 10 acres that make up the existing Flower Hill Preserve in 1989 with the help of civic groups and other members of the Johnston County community that were concerned this natural and historic resource may be lost to development.

Today families from the surrounding communities still gather in early May to picnic and enjoy the spectacular display of wildflowers in bloom.

While TLC's traditional hike the weekend before Mother's Day is past, there is still a little time to see the rhododendron blooms! Head out on your own to hike and picnic among the steep bluffs of Moccasin Creek. To find directions and download a trail guide, go to triangle-land.org and search "Flower Hill."



Land fund already conserves 1,168 acres; Attention turns to raising Stewardship funds

We're at \$4.1 million (and counting!) in donations to the Land Opportunity Fund through the *OUR WATER, OUR LAND* Campaign! Many thanks to our generous donors, TLC has already used the Fund to leverage more than \$13.9 million to protect 1,168 acres across the Triangle.

Of course, conserving land forever also means securing a way to responsibly care for that land forever, The *OUR WATER, OUR LAND* Stewardship Fund provides an opportunity for donors to help do just that. To complete the *OUR WATER, OUR LAND* Campaign, we need an additional \$1 million to directly support TLC's land stewardship activities.

Want to know what exciting, creative land stewardship looks like? Look no further than the Irvin Learning Farm (see page 8). *OWOL* Stewardship Fund gifts helped take land conservation at the Irvin Farm to another level. Now it's *not only* a place where 269 acres of beautiful farmland and forestland is TLC-protected; it's also a place where kids can learn about growing food, raising animals, keeping water clean and lots more green themes. Thanks to *OWOL* Campaign donors and volunteers, this summer will bring deep connections between kids and the natural world.

The *OWOL* Stewardship Fund will enable us to do more inventive work to insure that we all have access to fresh food from local farms and fantastic places to connect with nature. Let's get that \$1 million Stewardship Fund filled up!

Great naming opportunities are available at TLC nature sites across the Triangle to leave a legacy of your support or to honor a loved one. For more information about the *OUR WATER, OUR LAND* Campaign, please contact Cheryl Chamblee at cheryl@triangleland.org or Dan Bruer at dan@triangleland.org.

\$5.5

\$4.1

MILLION



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A Campaign to Conserve Our Community's Natural Heritage

Campaign Places: Projects Funded by *OUR WATER, OUR LAND*

Snow Hill

In December 2008, TLC used \$756,000 from the Land Opportunity Fund to purchase 177 acres near Treyburn to complete a string of eight conservation properties running more than three miles along Snow Hill Road and Vintage Hill Parkway in Durham. Providing exceptional water quality protection in the headwaters of Falls Lake, the deal also preserves part of the historic *Indian Trading Path to the Catawba*. Grants from the NC Clean Water Management Trust Fund and the Upper Neuse Clean Water Initiative will replenish the Land Opportunity Fund so it can be used for future conservation projects.

Read more about this Campaign Place in the *OUR WATER, OUR LAND* section of the TLC website.



JEFF MASTEN

Stately oaks line the historic Indian Trading Path near an abandoned early 20th century farmstead on the Snow Hill property. TLC is exploring the possibility of bringing farming back to Snow Hill through an innovative farm-lease program.

Two TLC properties rock with Martin Marietta Materials

Thanks to a generous donation of stone from Raleigh-based Martin Marietta Materials, new and improved parking lots and roadways are available at Flower Hill and Irvin Farm.

Flower Hill is TLC's nature preserve in Johnston Co., notable for its large stand of Catawba rhododendron and a great diversity of other wildflowers. May is a great time to visit Flower Hill, and the new parking lot made possible

Martin Marietta Materials



with the gift of stone from Martin Marietta now makes access much safer (*see related story on page 5*). For more information and a trail guide, go to triangleland.org and search "Flower Hill."

Irvin Farm in Orange Co. is only open for special events, like Green Jamboree on June 20 (*more info on back page*). The gift from Martin Marietta will improve the driveways so our guests can enjoy the food, music and wide variety of eco-friendly and fun family activities!

Thanks, Martin Marietta Materials, for helping TLC to connect people with nature!

Campaign Faces: The people behind *OUR WATER, OUR LAND*

Jennifer Maher

Growing up in the suburbs of Boston, Jennifer Maher (pronounced "mahr") discovered nature on an abandoned lot in her

West Newton neighborhood. Those early experiences were formative – "very vivid

memories, just from this little bit of open land" – building a love of nature and the basis of a deep conservation ethic that has grown over the years.

Read more about Jennifer's commitment to *OUR WATER, OUR LAND* online.



DOUG NICHOLAS

Discovery, fun and adventure at the Irvin Learning Farm

Are you looking for opportunities for your child to connect with nature or learn about where the food she eats comes from? This June and July, the Irvin Learning Farm offers a half-day summer camp setting specializing in hands-on arts and natural science experiences.

Located at TLC's 269-acre Irvin Farm in Orange Co., this pilot program is a place for discovery, fun and adventure in the natural world. Children (5-11) will explore the pond, walk through the woods, care for farm animals, harvest organically grown local crops, and create art from the landscape. Through their experiences they will learn about water quality, recycling and composting, sustainable forestry, and native plant and animal habitats.

Irvin Learning Farm is not just for children. Teachers are encouraged to attend to learn new ways to connect their pupils with nature. And high school students can volunteer to receive community service hours credit or as counselors-in-training.

Led by veteran educators Wendy Banning, Livy Ludington and Tori Ralston, the goal of the Irvin Learning Farm project is to give children and teachers experiences in the outdoors that enhance their current lives and learning, and that instill a lifelong com-

mitment to stewardship of the land.

All three educators have experience developing programs and curricula and working with children of all ages. They are respected leaders in their fields with experience ranging from outdoor learning, the arts, applied science and nature sustainability.

Funding for the Irvin Learning Farm pilot project is provided by a grant from the Grable Foundation, whose mission is "to help children and youth become independent, caring and contributing mem-

bers of society." Generous funding is also provided by the Oak Foundation, which commits its resources to address issues of global social and environmental concern. Consultation is provided by The Conservation Fund, a national nonprofit committed to conserving America's land and water resources.

To learn more, and for registration and contact information, go to www.learn-outside.com/irvin-learning-farm.html.



TY RHODY

The Irvin Learning Farm summer camp will offer opportunities to connect with nature.

Ride for the Land will explore Chatham farmland on July 11

On July 11, TLC will host our fourth annual Ride for the Land bicycle tour. The 2009 edition, dubbed the Freewheeling Farmland Frolic, will bring attention to our work to protect the farms and forests of Chatham Co.

Nobody knows the backroads of the Triangle like TLC. We put that knowledge to use in specially designing 30-, 45- and 60-mile routes to introduce cyclists to



2009

some of the most beautiful natural scenery in our region and to many of TLC's farm conservation projects in Chatham County.

Many thanks to the Pittsboro campus of Central Carolina Community College for hosting Ride for the Land 2009.

To learn more, register, find out about volunteer opportunities, or order our super-cool 2009 t-shirt, visit the Ride for the Land website at triangleland.org/rfl.

17th annual Land Trust Day is June 6!

On the first Saturday in June, businesses across the state show their support for land and water protection by donating a percentage of their sales, supporting membership drives, or by making donations to their local land trust.

North Carolina outdoor gear retailer Great Outdoor Provision Company (GOPC) founded Land Trust Day in 1992 as a way of protecting the great outdoors of North Carolina. This year, many local businesses are joining GOPC, showing strong support for your (and their!) local land trust.

Please support the local businesses that are supporting con-

servation in the Triangle by shopping on June 6th. And thank these retailers for supporting TLC! A full list of participating businesses will be distributed via the TLC E-News, so be sure to sign up at www.triangleland.org if you don't already receive the E-News.

Volunteers Needed: We'll need about 20 volunteers to staff TLC information and membership tables from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at three GOPC stores in the Triangle. We are

also looking for volunteers to help recruit new business partners. To volunteer, contact Marisa Bryant at 919-833-3662, ext. 111 or mbryant@triangleland.org.



Missouri transplant grows roots at TLC

TLC's new director of development, Dan Bruer, has a zeal for nature and for philanthropy.

"I grew up in the outdoors, camping and canoeing," Dan explains. "My father gave me a passion for the outdoors. He would catch everything to share with me and fascinate me, including scaring me by catching poisonous snakes like copperheads."

Dan's passion for nature continued to grow as he studied sociology in college. He was especially interested in discovering how to sustain or maintain a balance between modernization and the natural world.

Dan also developed an interest in fundraising. "I've found I enjoy working for nonprofits," Dan says. "I enjoy building causes I care about."

While working for the Red Cross, Dan was offered a promotion and an opportunity to relocate to the Triangle.

"My wife and I had good friends in Missouri who had moved to the Triangle to teach at UNC. We had visited them, and fell in love with the area," Dan recalls. "When I asked my wife if I should take the position in Raleigh, she didn't hesi-

tate. There was no question. We were going to move North Carolina."

Dan's new position with the Red Cross had him bouncing around the country and spending a substantial amount of time away from his family. Then he was blessed with a surprise - his daughter Ayla.



Dan Bruer

"Of course, I wanted to spend more time with my children," Dan says. "Also, the Triangle was really starting to feel like home, and I wanted to grow roots in the area."

Dan left the Red Cross to work for UNC-Chapel Hill's Division of Student Affairs and Ronald McDonald House Charities, before landing at TLC.

"Starting with my academic focus, I've wanted to work in the area of environment and conservation, and this really is the right opportunity at the right time with the right organization," says Dan.

Dan enjoys playing acoustic guitar, reading, sailing, and surfing. Dan, his wife, Michelle, and their children Parker (12) and Ayla (3), enjoying taking trips to the beach.

Read more about Dan online! www.triangleland.org/about/staff/staff_profile_db.shtml

Wishlist

This is a partial list of Volunteer needs and Equipment that would be incredibly helpful to our work. For the complete list, go online to triangleland.org and search "Wishlist." To volunteer or donate an item, email info@triangleland.org or call (919) 833-3662.

Volunteers

- Writers
- Event Photographers
- Special events
 - Land Trust Day
 - Green Jamboree
 - Ride for the Land
- Data entry
- Online social networking strategies

Equipment

- Computers (in working condition and at least 1000 MHz/1.0GHz)
- Large Format Color Plotter
- Vehicle (preferably 4x4 for field work and/or a pick-up truck)
- Tools for the Irvin Learning Farm (child size gardening tools, work gloves)
- Rakes, shovels, loppers, bow saws
- Woodworking equipment (hammers and a table saw)
- Riding mower that works well
- LCD projector
- Projection screen

Volunteer Honor Roll

January 1 2009 through March 31 2009

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students

Angelo Frizzell
Jean Hodder
Josh Howard
Diane Lennox
Andy Preston
Dave Ringenburg
Liane Salgado
Mike Shafale
Alec Weiss
Malcolm Wright

Volunteer Recruiting

Karen Bearden



TY RHUDY

Ken Moore leads a hike at Snow Hill in March.

Honorary and Memorial Gifts

January 1 2009 through March 31 2009

In Memory Of...

Grandma Baden

a gift from Gregory Sousa

Rebecca Calderon

a gift from Nancy Luberoff and Bruce J. Boehm

Harriet Cook Carter

a gift from Ms. Ann H. Wears

Everett Wesley Cheek

a gift from Nancy and Norm Gustaveson

Kathy Emmerman's father

a gift from Nancy Luberoff and Bruce J. Boehm

Scott Emmerman's father

a gift from Nancy Luberoff and Bruce J. Boehm

Anne Shaw

a gift from Barbara Matilsky and Jyoti Duwadi

David Shirley

a gift from Anita and Larry Shirley

Rebecca Socolar

gifts from Bob and Sue Behringer and Nancy Luberoff and Bruce J. Boehm

Jamie R. Strazlsar

a gift from Ms. Marie Novello

Carol Richardson's Mother

a gift from Ellen and Ken Reckhow

John Eric Wilson

gifts from Hiawatha and Karen Demby, Larry and Cheryl Diegel, Ms. Ann Glassman, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Jerdee, Mr. and Mrs. Ron Johnson, Caroline and Paul Lindsay, Ben and Wendy Ruth Paxton, Marilyn Riddle and Marilyn and Joseph Sparling

In Honor of...

Ruth Bardon and Michael Casey

in honor of your marriage a gift from Nancy Luberoff and Bruce J. Boehm

Blair Bowers

a gift from Mr. Oliver H. Orr, Jr.

Dick and Lou Brake

a gift from Sarah A. Sasser

Marty Burch

a gift from The Burch Family

Leon M. Holt

a gift from Robert P. Bonne

Home Based Primary Care VA Medical Center (Durham, NC)

a gift from Dr. and Mrs. Roy M. Stein

Claire Horne and Aris Buinevicius

a gift from Bill Lipscomb

Bet McClamroch's Birthday

a gift from Ms. Jenny Crittenden

Peg Parker and Anne Stoddard

a gift from Becky Carver

Tom and Marge Stoddard an anonymous gift

The Wedding of Sam Wellman and Danielle Lemuth

a gift from Alison Roxby and Brian Rulifson

TLC remembers Eleanor Pegg

TLC land donor Eleanor Smith Pegg passed away in February at the age of 98.

In 1995, Mrs. Pegg donated the 74-acre Orange Co. tract known as Pegg Hill in honor of her late husband, Carl, a history professor at UNC-Chapel Hill.

More recently, she donated an 82-acre tract along the Haw River in Chatham Co. to UNC's Botanical Garden Foundation in 2004. The foundation was instructed to sell the property and use \$1 million to help fund a new visitor education center and

allocate any additional proceeds to establishing a scholarship fund at UNC.

After almost two years of negotiations, the state purchased the property to become part of the Lower Haw River State Natural Area. TLC negotiated the purchase and secured \$1.2 million of state funding for the acquisition.

The sale funded the Eleanor Smith Pegg Exhibit Hall at the Botanical Garden's Visitor Education Center, scheduled to open in June, and the Carl H. Pegg and Eleanor S. Pegg scholarship fund.



Eleanor Pegg donated 82 acres (right, behind dam) on the Haw River in Chatham Co. to the UNC Botanical Garden Foundation. TLC assisted the state in conserving the land as part of the Lower Haw State Natural Area in 2006.



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Upcoming Events

June 6 Land Trust Day Details on page 9	June 6 Deep River Paddle triangleland.org/calendar	June 20 Green Jamboree Details below	July 11 Ride for the Land triangleland.org/rfl
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Save the Date for Green Jamboree 2009 Saturday, June 20

TLC members and friends, join us at the Irvin Farm for a day of great local food, music by The Bluegrass Experience, guided hikes and a wide variety of eco-friendly and fun family activities!

Watch for your invitation in the mail and plan to come celebrate another great year of conservation with TLC!

Members: Have your say, in several ways

In June, TLC will introduce two new concepts to our annual Board balloting.

First, taking advantage of a new law, we'll conduct our first online vote. In the past we've conducted voting at the annual meeting (Green Jamboree) and by mail. We'll continue to provide those options this year, adding the option of electronic voting.

Here's how it will work:

- ◆ If we have your email address you will receive an email ballot in early June.

Unsure if we have your email address? Send a message to info@triangleland.org with the sub-

ject "evote" by May 26.

- ◆ If we don't have your email address by May 26 you will receive a ballot in the mail in early June.

- ◆ All members are also welcome to vote at Green Jamboree.

Second, in addition to the Board ballot we'll also be seeking **your input on our Conservation Priorities**.

Included with the Board ballot—and part of a dedicated booth at Green Jamboree—will be a survey asking for your

thoughts on where you would like to see TLC focusing its efforts. Your feedback will help shape our work in the coming years!

