

The Duxbury Land Trust Newsletter

Vol. XI. No. 2

Fall 2009

DLT Fifteenth Anniversary Celebration

*To celebrate its 15th anniversary, the DLT is hosting a family-friendly event on
Saturday, October 24, 2009.*

Where: Crossett Brook Middle School, Route 100, Duxbury

When: October 24 – starting at 2:00 p.m.

Events:

Walk to State Farm Natural Area 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. (Meet at the front entrance to Crossett Brook)

Entertainment:

Jon Gailmor 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Colin McCaffrey 5:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Local Talent on Stage during dinner:

TBD

Harvest Dinner – 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. **Prepared** by Arvad's Grill and Pub

\$10 for Adults - \$5 for Children under 12

-- *RAFFLE PRIZES (See reverse side for details)* --

Admission: Free admission for all DLT members. **Non-members** - Suggested donation \$5 per family.

Duxbury Land Trust 15th Anniversary

On October 24, 2009, the Duxbury Land Trust (DLT) will observe its fifteenth anniversary with a family-friendly event at the Crossett Brook Middle School. Incorporated as a non-profit organization in 1994, the DLT is excited to celebrate its accomplishments as a small-town land trust. Starting with just 11 acres, the DLT has conserved more than 100 acres of natural resource and recreational land in Duxbury to date.

Not knowing that a land trust would be the outcome, a group of residents came together in 1994 in hopes of conserving a traditional swimming hole on the Ridley Brook. Needing to form a non-profit organization to apply for grants, they decided that creating a land trust was the best option.

The founding board literally 'passed the hat' and generated \$25 to deposit on the 10 acre swimming hole property. Assistance from the Vermont Land Trust and Christine and Vincent Iorio's donation of a critical parcel for access, were key factors in achieving the group's goal. Additionally, intense and, seemingly, non-stop fundraising; and state and private foundation grants enabled the grassroots group to realize its first project.

By 1999, the DLT completed its second project by accepting a conservation easement from Linda Devlin on 30 acres, including a traditional Duxbury homestead. Andy Clapp donated a five-acre parcel in 2004 adding to holdings along the Ridley Brook. In 2004, the State of Vermont asked the Land Trust to accept an easement on a portion of the former State Farm. (Permanently conserving sections of the former State Farm is a permit condition for both the Town and Act 250.) We are awaiting completion of the next State Farm sale to finalize the easement on 100 acres, which include wetlands and deeryards.

The DLT sees its role, primarily, as assisting the landowner whose property may be too small or unrelated to the missions of other organizations. We collaborate with the Vermont Land Trust on larger parcels of interest and actively participate in the Chittenden County Uplands Conservation Project. Land Trust board members also contribute to the Town in a broader way, by coordinating Green Up Day, sponsoring wildlife events and serving on town boards. In 2004, DLT's Vince Franke, of Peregrine Productions, partnered with Harwood Union High School to record our local history—as seen through the eyes of townspeople. (continued on the back)

Duxbury Land Trust Newsletter

The Duxbury Land Trust
P.O. Box 56
Waterbury, VT 05676



The Duxbury Land Trust ~ A Resource for the Community

Hosting the Camel's Hump State Park may seem to secure a sufficient amount of Duxbury land for conservation. Indeed, some residents are of the opinion that there is already too much conserved land in Duxbury. There is disagreement among Duxbury residents about the value of having state land in town. Some bemoan the loss of tax revenue. Others appreciate conservation's recreational opportunities, wildlife and forest resources, and its contribution to the rural nature of Duxbury that is disappearing in many Vermont locales.

Camel's Hump State Park and Forest certainly does protect important habitat for wildlife, but wildlife need to move into areas beyond the boundaries of state land to fulfill the requirements of their life cycles. Connecting corridors are essential to provide necessary resources or wildlife will not thrive. Fragmenting large areas of undeveloped land negatively affects not only the large mammals, but migrating song birds and other small animals.

Because of its proximity to Waterbury and other growth areas in Washington and even Chittenden Counties, Duxbury is also experiencing a growth wave. The 2000 census revealed that Duxbury grew at 32%! While there is considerable open land left in Duxbury; growth pressures are not going away. However, growth can be accommodated without compromising those important areas that contribute to Duxbury's quality of life.

The Land Trust fills the niche that is not met by other conservation organizations. Locally based conservation keeps land on the tax rolls while ensuring that the best of Duxbury is kept for future generations. Conservation, in partnership with the Land Trust, enables stewards of their land to maintain the special and irreplaceable resources that are a hallmark of our community.

To help raise money for the Duxbury Land Trust, we're having a raffle!

Tickets are 1\$ each, 6 for 5\$,
You don't need to be present at party to claim

The drawing will be at the party.
Call a Board of Trustee Member below to buy some tickets, you can buy at the event too.

*All proceeds to benefit the Duxbury Land Trust
a 501(c)(3) organization*

Fabulous Raffle Items

- Hen of the Wood Dinner Certificate
- Pair of Mad River Glen Day Passes
- 8 hours of architectural consultation from Don Welch (Architect)
- Breakfast for 2 at the Stagecoach Inn
- Sauna Ladle and Bucket from Solhem Sauna
- 30 minute massage from Patty Delaney
- 3 free Yoga Classes from One Studio
- 2 Keurig Coffee Brewers from GMCR
- 1 Brewing a Better World Gift Basket

Thanks to our Supporters for Helping Us Along the Way

Individuals: All of our Charter and current members, Alice Blodgett* – Artist, Patty Casey – Musician and Recording Artist, Andy Clapp, Linda Devlin, Robert Dostis – Former State Representative, Christine and Vincent Iorio, Sue Minter – State Representative, David Wilson* – Attorney. **Businesses:** Green Mountain Coffee Roasters, Duxbury Country Store, Stowe Street Emporium, Vincent's Drug and Variety, Founding Board Members: Claire Blodgett*, Bob Haslam, Tony Jamka*, Oren Kronick, Alan Quackenbush, Audrey Quackenbush, Kathy Reilly, John Shane, and Maria Stadlmayer.

(from the front) Besides acknowledging our accomplishments at this fifteen year juncture, we are focusing on how we can become an even more effective organization. We welcome your support and encourage you to join our small-town land trust so that we may continue our service to Duxbury.

2009 Board of Trustees

| | | | |
|--------------------|----------|------------------|----------|
| Brenda Clarkson | 496-7094 | Vince Franke | 244-1349 |
| Catherine Gjessing | 244-4952 | Don Welch | 244-5876 |
| Jesse Guertin | 244-6462 | Alan Quackenbush | 244-7512 |
| Audrey Quackenbush | 244-7512 | Winston Rost | 244-1265 |
| Nils Shenholm | 244-6460 | Rose Comyns | 244-0904 |

The Duxbury Land Trust depends on its members for the energy and resources required for innovative and responsible land stewardship. Your membership helps make possible land acquisitions, easement negotiation and stewardship, and communication and outreach efforts. We would love you to join us. For more information, call a Trustee or write to: Duxbury Land Trust, PO Box 56, Waterbury, VT 05676

Membership:

| | |
|---------------------|-------|
| Member | \$15 |
| Family Membership | \$30 |
| Supporting Member | \$30 |
| Contributing member | \$50 |
| Sustaining Member | \$100 |