working to protect the natural integrity of the Finger Lakes Region

Vol. 27, No. 2 • Spring 2015

Lindsay-Parsons Grows to 537 Acres with New Addition

resh out of Cornell in 1982, Hamilton Allport put an ad in the newspaper: "Wanted: rural house in need of repair." A farmer named Alfred Eddy responded, offering a property for sale in West Danby. Soon, Allport had his house. After a great deal of work, it became his home—and Allport had taken the first steps in his career in real estate rehabilitation and rental.

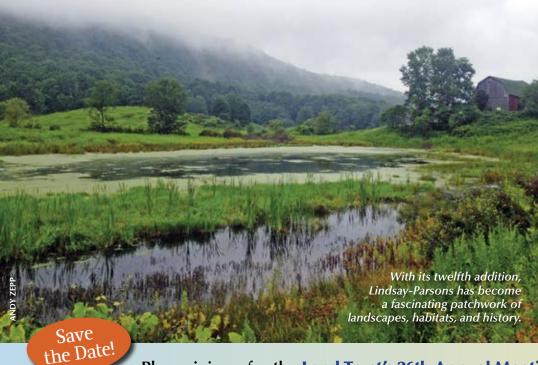
What's more, Allport got 31 acres of wetlands too. In time the property became known fondly to his family and friends as "the Beaver Ranch," in recognition of the busy residents of the wooded pond behind the house. Nowadays, tall snags in this pond host a small rookery of Great Blue Herons and Green Herons. In spring and summer, Hooded Mergansers and Wood Ducks ply the still waters below, while swallows endlessly swoop through the trees and down to the surface to pick insects. South and west of the pond, the tract also contains open meadow and mixed forest.

Allport decided to pass his land on to new caretakers. The Land Trust stepped in, and the two parties recently closed the sale.

The Allport property is the twelfth parcel that the Land Trust has acquired for the Lindsay-Parsons Biodiversity Preserve. Comprising about 537 acres after this latest purchase, the preserve is a fascinating patchwork of landscapes, habitats, and history.

The preserve began as a bold idea. In 1994, Cornell professor Thomas Eisner proposed that the Land Trust identify an ecologically rich site near Ithaca, acquire and protect it, and then promote its use for research into chemical ecology. He further proposed that the Land Trust tap the potential commercial value of chemical substances produced by organisms on site, via negotiation of access fees and royalties with the pharmaceutical industry.

Continued on page 4





Conservation easement donor Louise Robinson (2nd from the left) with daughters (left to right) Claire Howard, Eleanor "Ellie" Wilcox, and Peggy Manring

Skaneateles Lake Benefits from Easement Donation

Skaneateles Lake continues to be the only one of the Finger Lakes with water that can be delivered to nearby communities without going through an expensive filtration process. But there is no magic to this fact: protection of the watershed to reduce nutrient loading that would harm the lake's water quality has been a key concern for many years. No less than the city of Syracuse depends upon the lake's water supply.

This spring, the Land Trust completed a conservation easement on 14 acres of woodland property at Brook Farm—a Skaneateles Lake icon—protecting both sides of Bentley Brook, an important tributary at the northern end of the lake.

The conservation easement, a generous donation to the Land Trust from owner Louise Robinson, buffers but does not include the majestic colonial-style mansion and expansive continued on page 2

Please join us for the Land Trust's 26th Annual Meeting & Celebration overlooking beautiful Skaneateles Lake • Saturday, June 13th at 10:00 am. (See Insert for Details.)



Brook Farm is one of the places that make our Finger Lakes region so special. Located on the western shore of Skaneateles Lake, it is known to many as one of the homes of the Skaneateles Festival, an annual concert series featuring world-renowned musicians. There is nothing quite like enjoying an August sunset at Brook Farm while savoring a glass of wine and enjoying the music.

In addition to a gracious home and lawns with sweeping views of the lake, Brook Farm also features a tributary to Skaneateles Lake and mature forests along the stream that also border State Route 41A. The health of these lands, and others like it, are vital to the health of the lake.

Louise Robinson and her family had a choice as they planned for the future of their beloved property. They could have left all of their options open and maximized their financial return. Fortunately for all of us, they didn't. Their conservation easement ensures that their forest will continue to host a diversity of migratory birds, help maintain a scenic highway corridor, and hold the soil while shading the stream that runs through their property.

Louise and her family join more than 100 families across the Finger Lakes who have also donated



conservation easements. All of us at the Land Trust applaud these visionary residents of our region who have made a gift for the future that very much helps us continue the best traditions of the past.

Andrew Zepp,

Andrew Zepp, Executive Director, Finger Lakes Land Trust

Skaneateles Lake Benefits from Easement Donation continued from cover

lawns that are well-known to music lovers attending the annual Skaneateles Festival each August.

Instead, the easement entails a hardwood forest on the south side of Brook Farm, from State Route 41A down to the lake shore. The woodland straddles the brook and ravine that ultimately drains to the lake, and all will remain undeveloped forever.

The easement also prevents roadside development of a wooded area along Skaneateles' West Lake Road, preserving the rural, forested character of that stretch of scenic State Route 41A.

The Finger Lakes Land Trust works with interested landowners throughout the region to reach agreement on what the owners want for the future of their land. Conservation easements are legal agreements between property owners and organizations, such as the Finger Lakes Land Trust, that limit future property development while allowing land to remain in private ownership and on the tax rolls. There are state and federal tax benefits for such easements.

Skaneateles resident Claire Howard, one of Louise Robinson's three daughters, talked about life at Brook Farm after the family moved from Dewitt in 1968, when Claire was a teenager.

"We were basically a do-it-yourself family," she said. "My father's family tradition was as a proud gardener, and he spent most of his time growing vegetables for all of us—and later for the music festival."

"We worked on the house a lot, and we heated with wood and did family wood harvesting from the dead trees in the forest," Claire added. "I think our parents taught us to be good stewards of the land."

Claire's father, David Robinson, died in 2006, leaving the property to his wife Louise. But he had left his imprimatur, so to speak, upon the property. His gardening for the family and

the musicians at the festival will be remembered by many. His legacy continues especially in a strong commitment to land stewardship that his wife and children retain. According to Claire, her father felt the family were only temporary stewards of the land, and that there were bigger and more long-lasting concerns involved.

Some two years ago, Claire approached her mother with a suggestion that they meet with the Land Trust about a conservation easement, and Louise readily agreed. Claire assembled the family group and met with Land Trust executive director Andrew Zepp.

"So, Andy gave his very low key, informational—but inspirational—talk to us about conservation easements," Claire said. "This meeting with Andy was important in bringing the family around. Not everyone was for it at the beginning, but things turned around after that meeting."

A member of the Skaneateles Lake Association, Claire is well-versed on water quality problems facing the lake.

"It had become clear to us [from developments around Skaneateles Lake] that ravines and tributaries are really vulnerable to development," Claire said. "You would think you might be protected from this, but you aren't protected. So, safe-guarding streams and gullies when you can do it is definitely an important water quality saver. As a family, we felt that we needed to protect, forever, the land that we own, because it so sensitive a conservation area and so beautiful to all of us."

"Above all, we are so proud of our mom for doing this," Claire added. "This will be a good part of her legacy."

-Eben McLane

The Land Trust gratefully acknowledges Attorney Christopher Werner and the law firm of Boylan Code, LLP in Rochester for providing pro bono legal services in support of this project.

Donation of the New Tioga County Preserve Completed

At the end of February, the Land Trust completed its acquisition of a 290-acre property in the town of Candor, Tioga County.

The parcel was donated by Ithaca residents Betsy and Dick Darlington, who have a long history with the Land Trust. Betsy was a founding board member when the Land Trust was created in 1989, and she played an integral role in building its land protection and stewardship programs. The Darlington family also donated the Land Trust's first-ever conservation easement on this very property in 1990.

The Darlingtons purchased the property in 1972, seeking a natural area for their family to get out and explore. After enjoying this peaceful retreat for more than 40 years, the family decided to donate all but a small portion of the property to the Land Trust, to be managed as a nature preserve. Now known as the Logan Hill Nature Preserve (as requested by the Darlingtons), the property features a wondrous cross-section of Finger Lakes landscapes and diverse habitats:

- Several sprawling meadows that were once farmland are now host to a series of ponds and vernal pools with an abundance of biodiversity. (The Cornell Herpetological Society will visit the preserve this year to explore the ponds and wetlands and inventory reptiles and amphibians.)
- Woodlands scattered throughout the preserve are primarily hardwood forests of oak and maple, along with other interesting varieties such as tupelo and cucumber trees. The woodlands provide habitat for a wide variety of songbirds and wildlife.
- The preserve has substantial frontage along Catatonk Creek, a significant tributary to the Susquehanna River.



In the coming year, Land Trust staff and volunteers will work together to complete an inventory of the property and develop a management plan to guide future use of the site. The Land Trust intends to make the preserve accessible to the public via a network of hiking trails, a parking area, and an interpretive kiosk. Further opportunities for public use of the preserve may include cross-country skiing, nature study, and permit-based deer hunting. In conjunction with the Town of Candor, the Land Trust is also seeking to create a public kayak/canoe launch on Catatonk Creek.

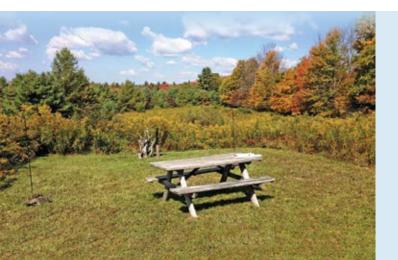
The Logan Hill Nature Preserve is the second conservation area in Tioga County owned by the Land Trust with

public access. The Robert and Mary Carver King Nature Preserve, acquired by the Land Trust in 2001, spans 161 acres in the town of Richford.

Efforts are currently underway to raise funds to accommodate public access to the preserve. To make a contribution supporting the Logan Hill Nature Preserve, please contact Kelly Makosch, the Land Trust's Director of Development and Communications, at 607-275-9487 or kellymakosch@fllt.org.

—Jeff Tonole

The Land Trust gratefully acknowledges Attorney Dick Ruswick in Ithaca for providing pro bono legal services in support of this project.



Conservation Land with Cabin for Sale

he Land Trust is selling a 53-acre parcel of land with cabin subject to a conservation easement—for \$109,000. The property is located in the town of Danby, Tompkins County and includes forest land, two streams, and a ridgetop meadow with distant views where the cabin is located. For further details, please contact realtor Ed Finegan at 607-279-0234.

Land Trust Receives Grant from NYS Conservation Partnership Program

The Land Trust has been awarded a total of \$51,000 for regional conservation projects through the New York State Conservation Partnership Program. The program is funded through the State's Environmental Protection Fund and administered by the Land Trust Alliance, in coordination with the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation.

The Land Trust was awarded \$26,000 to support a new initiative to help residents and visitors more easily access conservation lands for recreational purposes. A new web portal (gofingerlakes.org) will showcase the best places for hiking, paddling, birdwatching, and other outdoor activities in the Finger Lakes region. The site will also highlight how people can take action to ensure the future of these areas.

An additional \$25,000 was granted to enable the Land Trust to work with partners to produce a comprehensive regional conservation plan for the twelve Finger Lakes counties. The plan will outline conservation priorities with maps and detailed supporting documentation for use by the Land Trust and its conservation partners. This project will be collaborative in nature and will involve the participation of many stakeholders.

"We're grateful for the continued support of the NYS Conservation Partnership Program," says Land Trust Executive Director Andrew Zepp. "This program has helped us jump-start a number of new initiatives that otherwise wouldn't have been possible."

State Senator Tom O'Mara, chairman of the Senate Environmental Conservation Committee adds, "One of the true highlights of the recently enacted state budget is that we strengthened the Environmental Protection Fund, and this is exactly why. The fund helps to direct critical state funding to develop, encourage and enhance partnerships like this one between the Finger Lakes Land Trust and the Department of Environmental Conservation. Regional, locally based conservation initiatives like these serve to effectively enhance environmental quality, strengthen local communities and economies, and enhance outdoor recreation and tourism opportunities for the residents and families of the Finger Lakes. I'm grateful to the Finger Lakes Land Trust for their critical leadership."

Lindsay-Parsons Grows to 537 Acres with New Addition continued from cover

The Land Trust agreed to pursue Eisner's concept. Shortly afterward, forester Michael DeMunn identified a site worthy for implementation of the concept. This original 223.5-acre tract in West Danby, then owned by Jackson Coleman, spans the floodplain and steep eastern slope of the Cayuga Inlet valley, extending nearly to the peaks known as Thatcher's

Pinnacles in Danby State Forest. The land is stunningly diverse, encompassing several streams (including about 3400 feet of the Inlet itself), a 15-acre human-made lake, glacier-carved kettles and moraines, hardwood swamp, vernal pools, open grassy and early-successional shrub fields, and mixed forest.

The Land Trust acquired all this land in December 1996. Upon purchase, the property, along with 36.5 adjacent acres donated by Tompkins County, was officially renamed as the Lindsay-Parsons Biodiversity Preserve, in honor of the parents of Elizabeth Kirchner, whose donation made the acquisition possible.

Since then, the Land Trust has gradually expanded the preserve with acquisitions of neighboring properties, including fields to the south and major additions to the preserve's mature woodlands, extending the long border with Danby State Forest. Over on Hamilton Allport's side of Routes 34 and 96, directly across from the Coleman tract, the Land Trust has also been adding steadily to the preserve. A purchase of 103 acres in 2000 gave Lindsay-Parsons its

first foothold on the wooded western slope of the inlet valley, all to way to the top of the ridge and then down into the Beech Hill Brook ravine. Allport's parcel fits neatly between preceding acquisitions on this side of the valley, forming one broad, continuous protected area.

For several years after its founding, the preserve did

indeed serve its originally envisioned purpose as a research and prospecting site for natural chemicals. Nowadays, however, the Land Trust manages Lindsay-Parsons with greater emphasis on broader purposes—protection of habitats for plants and wildlife; preservation of scenic areas and water resources; provision of free public access for hiking and nature study; and further enlargement and diversification of the preserve.

Hamilton Allport has known these objectives well as a frequent visitor as well as a next-door neighbor of Lindsay-Parsons. He now takes heart in adding his beloved land to the preserve,

under the Land Trust's faithful stewardship. "I've followed the Land Trust's work and growth over the years and have seen firsthand their accomplishments," he says. "It's a special place."

—Mark Chao

Recent addition

FLLT's Lindsay-Parsons Biodiversity Preserve

under the Land Trust's fa

The Land Trust gratefully acknowledges Attorney Virginia Tesi and the law firm of Barney, Grossman, Dubow, Marcus, Orkin & Tesi, LLP in Ithaca for providing pro bono legal services in support of this project.

Conservationist and Volunteer of the Year Awards to be Presented at Annual Meeting

Each spring, the Land Trust recognizes two individuals for their commitment to conservation at its annual meeting held each spring.

This year's Conservationist of the Year Award

will be presented to 5th grader Henry Scholl. Henry is an 11-year-old resident of Niles, Cayuga County, who raised funds in support of the Land Trust and its conservation efforts. Henry is the son of longtime members and volunteers Kris Scholl and Brooke



Conservationist of the Year Henry Scholl

Oropallo. "I like nature, and all the animals and plants in it," said Henry. "The Land Trust preserves habitat for them and gives me a place to explore and enjoy them. I chose the Land Trust to help them continue the work they do."

This year's Volunteer of the Year Award

will be presented to Lynn Turnquist. Lynn was the Land Trust's bookkeeper for 15 years before leaving in 2013. Although a paid consultant, Lynn was as much a part of the Land Trust family as any trusted staff member could be. During a long



Volunteer of the Year Lynn Turnquist

transition period that ultimately resulted in creating a new financial manager position, Lynn worked tirelessly with the new staff person to facilitate turning over a multitude of responsibilities. For her efforts, Lynn refused all of our attempts to compensate her for her time. A volunteer of the very first order, Lynn Turnquist is a privilege to honor.

Please join us at Brook Farm on June 13th to help us congratulate the generous efforts of Henry and Lynn. See insert for details.

The New fllt.org

We invite you to visit our new web site where you can find hundreds of beautiful photos, better online giving, and an interactive map of nature preserves and trails!

Please visit the all new: FLLT.ORG

It is now easier than ever to make a difference! With the new web site, you can get involved and get outdoors:

Find a Nature Preserve: fllt.org/map
Give to the Land Trust: fllt.org/give
Volunteer for the Land Trust: fllt.org/volunteer
Attend an Event: fllt.org/events

We hope you will feel more connected to the Land Trust through the new web site. Please help us make it even better by sending your feedback to: fllt.org/sitefeedback

Our appreciation for gifts in honor of...

Mark Chao

FROM

Esther Racoosin and Eric Alani

Burch and Louise Craig FROM

Gregory Craig

Betsy and Dick Darlington

FROM Jean Darlington and Eduardo Marchena Lois Darlington

Judith Doucet

Camille Doucet

Laura Gordon

FROM

George Gordon, Jr. Cornelia Gordon Hempe Mary G. Menzie Nancy Gordon Vandivert

> Molly McLeod FROM Jeff Katris

Louise Robinson

FROM

John Dean and Maureen Carroll

Stu Schweizer FROM J. Seeley Booth

and gifts in memory of...

Sam Argetsinger

FROM

Global Prairie Charitable Foundation Sandra Polakow Sam and Carol Shama Donna Updike

Corwin and Nancy Brumley FROM

Sally and Kip Keller

Albert and Sybil Craig FROM

Sol Israel

Myrtle Eames
FROM

Eric Hobday

Christopher Elling

FROM Robert and Phyllis Purple

> Jim Eyster FROM

Thomas and Alice Dyckman Howard and Erica Evans Buck Johnson and Ann Hales J. Patrick Rollo

John and Natasha Suter

David Hamlin

FROM

FROM Bonnie Hamlin **Charles and Ann Jankey**

FROM Walter and Sarah Medlin

Carola Keller FROM Sally and Kip Keller

Henry (Hank) Krauss

FROM
Becca Harber

Bill Mohin

FROM Carlos and Susan Pena Tom and Maureen Welch

> Jerry Nykiel FROM

Vincent Nykiel

Dr. Edward O'Hanlon

FROM Eric Hobday

Verne Rockcastle FROM

Betsy and Dick Darlington Helen Wivell

> Marie Suwinski FROM Judy Sobczak

NOISSIM HOO

To conserve forever the lands and waters of the Finger Lakes region, ensuring scenic visitus, local foods, clean water, and wild places for everyone.

GO FOR A HIKE.







TOP 5 QUESTIONS Where can I find the pr BY THE NUMBERS

GETTING OUTSIDE

West is a famility of What is PLLT?

GET THE LATEST.

Publications

SCENES from the New FLLT.ORG...



You can explore over 30 nature preserves created by the Finger Lakes Land Trust. They are free and open to the public for quiet recreation year-round. See our interactive map below to find new places for hiking, paddling, birding, and family outings.

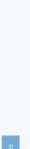
FEATURED PRESERVES

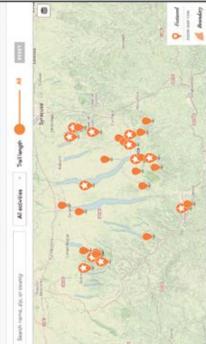












fllt.org/map

Fime to get outdoors! You can use our directions and brilliant photos by FLLT see boundaries and trails. Click to get volunteers. Try 3 different base maps: new interactive map to find over 30 nature preserves for hiking, birding, paddling, and scenic vistas. Zoom to topographic, street, and satellite.

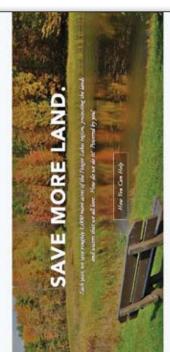


LAND TRUST VOLUNTEER MARKS TEN YEARS OF SPRING BIRDING

APR. 34, 2515

Jon us for the 10th Spring Brid Quest.

EMAIL NEWSLETTER **EVENTS CALENDAR**



You can explore the inspiring Finger Lakes region through our free

public nature preserves and online conservation materials.

LEARN THE LAND

SAVE YOUR LAND

JOIN TODAY

MAKE A GIFT

Your orders donation goes to work right how in the Frage Lakes region saving forests, farmlench, gorgen, westends, and absentives.













Thanks to those of you who have already sent

feedback about the new web site. We are eager









000

fllt.org/sitefeedback

to hear more!



fllt.org/donate

AKE A CLOSER LOOK

IND A NATURE PRESERVE

region. Our new online giving system automatically recurring gift on a monthly, quarterly, or annual basis. land and water in the Finger Lakes is a snap to use. You can make an It is easier than ever to help save

fllt.org/learntheland

NUMBERS + DOODLES =

CONSERVATION IN THE

lan's share planty of green spi What is a land trust, anyway? REGION (FAQ)

UN FACTOIDS

land protection strategies. Download Understand our mission, vision, and You can explore the region through dozens of free FLLT publications. materials. Read our FAQ about our new online conservation conservation in the region.

Your gift made a difference this year! Thanks to the contributions of over 2,000 members, donors and volunteers, the Land Trust now protects over 17,000 acres – ensuring scenic vistas, local foods, clean water and wild places for everyone.

We are grateful for gifts of all sizes and will use them wisely to advance conservation. In particular, we wish to acknowledge everyone who generously made a gift of \$100 or more in calendar year 2014.* Please accept our heartiest thanks!

Land and Conservation Easement Donors Philip A. Cusick Trust • Harris McIntosh Trust • Michael & Carrie Koplinka-Loehr • Louise Robinson and Margaret Manring as Co-Trustees of the Renunciation Trust **\$499,999** Anonymous (2) **\$20,000-99,999** Anonymous (2) • David & Amy Allyn • Priscilla Browning • James Flaws & Marcia Weber • Barbara Russell Hamlin • John & Josephine Ingle • New York's Environmental Protection Fund and the NYS Conservation Partnership Program, administered by the Land Trust Alliance • Park Foundation • Josie Yunis & Marty Taylor \$10,000-19,999 Anonymous (2) • Tom Babcock • Peter & Ursula Browning • Cayuga Foundation • John & Louisa Cohlan • Edward & Verna Gerbic Family Foundation • Gifford Foundation • Meg Ewing • Ruth and Roger Hopkins • Nora van der Stricht Charitable • Annuity Lead Trust • Dorothy Rinaldo • Walbridge Family Foundation \$5000-9999 Anonymous • Betty Lewis Trust Robert & Janet Bissell
 Louise & Burch Craig
 Dominion Transmission Estate of William Houghton • Holland & Patience Gregg • Doug & Kip Hargrave • John & Robin Moss Hinchcliff • John W. Bristol Trust • Dan Karig & Joane Molenock . Lew and Dawn Allyn Family Fund of the Community Foundation of Collier County • Patricia & David Maule • Gerald Morsello & Elaine Rees • Stephen & Linda Pope • Schramm-Brown Fund of the Community Foundation for Palm Beach and Martin Counties • Douglas B. Sutherland & Nancy Kramer • Thomas and Maria Eisner Fund of the Community Foundation of Tompkins County • Tompkins County • US Forest Service • Yunis Realty, Inc. \$1000-4999 Anonymous (3) • John & Marilyn Abbott • Barry Adams • Anurag Agrawal • John Alexander • Harry Ash & Rebecca Clark • Neil & Maggie Atkins • Dawn Bahar-Goellner • Mary Berens & Paul Feeny • Dave Birchenough & Carrie Lazarus • Dave & Joanna Bock • Brooks Family Foundation • Sonya Burgher • James & Terry Byrnes • Canandaigua National Bank • Catherine Caneau • Ted & Susan Carman • Diane & Roger Cass • Mark Chao & Miyoko Chu • Joan Christy & Thomas Bersani • Charles & Nancy Cladel • Ed & Caroline Cope • Corning Incorporated Foundation • Mac Cummings • Bruce & Leslie Cutler • Dan Smalls Presents • Peter Davies & Linda DeNoyer • Patty & Tom Davis • Tanya & Blake Dillon • Jeff & Jane Doyle • Grace Doyle • Earth Share of New York Anatol & Carolyn Eberhard
 Brad Edmondson & Tania Werbizky
 Elmira Savings Bank • Estate of Alice Thurber • George Ewing • David Fay • David Fernandez & Elizabeth Lawson • Edward Finegan • John & Molly Fitzpatrick • James & Ellen Fralick • Mariano Garcia • Natalia Garcia • Marty & Cathy Gardner • Gates Family Fund of InFaith Community Foundation • Kurt & Sorel Gottfried • Steve Green & Ann Moore • Kirk & Penny Gregg • Lorraine Gudas • Tim Hamlin • Rick & Ellen Harrison • Helen Thomas Howland Foundation as administered by the Community Foundation of Tompkins County • Peter & Susan Henry • Ann Hinchcliff • Eva & Roald Hoffmann • Robert & Joan Horn Jr. • George Howell • Isabel Hull • IBM Corporation • Albert Joerger • Michael & Debbie Kamarck • Peter & Peggy Kane • Marsha & Fredric Kardon • Rosalind Kenworthy • Jim & Sara Kersting • David & Sherill Ketchum • Elizabeth Kirchner • Bill & Carol Klepack • Carl Kohls • Carrie & Michael Koplinka-Loehr • Craig & Susan Larson • James Lassoie &

Ruth Sherman • Lynn Leopold • Lewis G. Schaeneman, Jr. Foundation, Inc. Lloyd Lill
 Frances Littin
 Chuck Tauck
 Alison Lurie
 M&T Charitable Foundation • Peter & Beth Marks • John & Candace Marsellus • David & Linda Marsh • John Marshall & Cindy Callahan • Douglas & Barbara McIlroy • McKechnie/Carroll Fund • John P. & Elizabeth Y. McKinnell • Midvale Foundation • Harold Mills & Sabrina Johnston • James & Julie Moore • Victoria Nuzzo & Bernd Blossey • NYSEG • Edwin & Mary Ann Oyer • Paula Peter & Mike Ward • Kate & Mont Pooley • Ed & Diane Premo • Chris Proulx & Varya Siegel • Purity Ice Cream • Nancy & Andrew Ramage • William Rayburn • Tom Reimers • Marjory Rinaldo-Lee & David Lee • Robert E. Hansen Family Foundation • Buzz & Gretchen Roberts • Kim Rothman • Jean & Betty Rowley • David & Susan Ruppert • Greg & Betsy Russell • Lindsay Ruth & Perry Dimmick • Gail M. Sanford • Nancy & Charles Scholes • Stuart & Lucy Schweizer • William Schweizer • Sciarabba, Walker, & Co., LLP • Donna Scott • Stephanie Sechler • Seneca Meadows, Inc. • Erron Silverstein & Maria Montgomery • Gail & Paul Silvestri • Bonnie & John Sirianni • Carol Skinner • Jeannie McGinn Slauson & Hank Slauson • George & Priscilla Slocum • Elsa & Peter Soderberg • Thomas & Donna Sokol • Don Specker & Christine Sanchirico • Sustainable Newfield Fund of the Community Foundation of Tompkins County • David & Martha Swift • Peter & Lisa Sykes • Regi Teasley & Judith Saul • Marie Terlizzi & Robert Dobbs • James Terwilliger & Ellen Coyne • Genevieve Thompson • Bruce & Katie Thompson • Mack & Carol Travis • Velmex, Inc. • Erik & Judy von Bucher • Peggy Walbridge • Tom & Maureen Walsh • Jennifer & Bill Warning • Christopher & Beverly Way • Wendell Weeks & Kim Frock • David Weinstein & Christina M. Stark • Patty Weisse & George Thomas • Robert & Jo Werner Kris & Jim West • Peter White & Mary Socci • Penelope Wickham & Thomas Kather • Geoffrey & Virginia Wickwire • Scott Wilkerson • Donald Wilson • Christopher Wirth • Marianne & J.D. Young • Mary Helen Yunis • Amy Yunis \$500-999 Ole & Mina Amundsen • Barbara Anderson & Andrew Clark • Charles & Kathy Babcock • Edward & Sharon Barno • Mary Berk • Mike Braell • Bill & Anne Buckingham • Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Burke • Canandaigua Rotary Club • Linda & David Caughey • Chemung Canal Trust Company • J.A. Chisholm • Joseph & Katherine Compagni • Cornell University • Bobby & Susan Creed • Clover Drinkwater • Linda & Michael Duttweiler • D. W. & Marilyn Edington • William Eggers & Deborah McLean Michael & Harriet Eisman
 Sally & Tim Eller
 Michael J. & Noreen Falcone
 Finger Lakes Running & Triathlon Company
 Tessa Flores
 Ira Goldstein Barbara Johnson Foote
 Rose Ann & Ron Gay
 Mark Gould
 Bradley & Mary Grainger • Mary Agnes & Stephen Hamilton • Bonnie Hamlin • James Hamlin • Jim & Betta Hedlund • L. Bruce Higgins • Hospitality Art Collective Carolyn Jacobs • Leann & Kevin Kanda • Sally & Kip Keller • Carolyn Kenyon & Robert Dattola • Ted & Kathryn Kinder • Connie Kintner • James & Kimball Kraus • Dorothy Krause • Helen Launt • Lois Levitan & Martha Armstrong • Kelly & Kenny Makosch • Ed Marx • Rick Marx & Alan Grethel • Bill & Shirley McAneny • Bob McGuire & Judy Keil • Eben McLane • Bruce & Eleanor McLear • Miller Mayer, LLP • Rick & Mayumi Naro •



Dale Parmley • Precision Filters, Inc. • Robert & Phyllis Purple • Elizabeth & Dennis Regan • Richard M. Morse Conservation Club, LLC • Don & Nancy Robbins • David Sagan • Wade & Joscelyne Sarkis • Kris Scholl & Brooke Oropallo • John Schroeder • Standing Stone Vineyards • Robert Strominger & Karen E. Miller • Ann Sullivan & Nick Salvatore • Robert & Elizabeth Symon • T.G. Miller P.C. • William Thompson • Michael & Marina Todd • Jeff Tonole • Paul & Mary Torrisi • Charles & Nancy Trautmann • Charles & Jane Walcott • Doug & Cory Ward • Rick & Donna Weinstein • David Nakita Werier • Margaret White • Alicia & Mark Wittink • Andrew & Rocio Zepp \$250-499 Anonymous • Ion Allen • Richard Allen • Iohn & Dawn Altmeyer Paul Anderson
 Marilyn Baader
 Donald Babcock
 J. Robert Barlow Kathryn Bartholomew • Kate Beare • Alan & Bunny Bernstein • Brendan & Mary Brady • Robert & Marcia Brancato • Anthony & Janice Bretscher • Gordon Brott • Larry & Laura Buffam • Tom Butler • Ruth & William Cahn • Carman and Sandra Brink Hill Fund of the Community Foundation of Tompkins County • Kenneth Carrier • Edith Cassel • Cayuga Lake National Bank • CFCU Community Credit Union • Conservation Connects • Edwin Cowen • Betsy & Dick Darlington • Jean Darlington & Eduardo Marchena • Jed & Barbara Delmonico • Bill & Sarah Demo • Michael & Joyce DeVito • Alan Dolmatch • Michele Dryer • Herb Engman • Mitchel & Robin Evans • Richard & Barbara Evans • Kevin Fager • Nathan & Frances Fawcett • Audrey McK. Fernandez • Thomas & Elizabeth Fisher-York • Friends of the Tompkins County Public Library • Kenneth Gardner • Katherine Graham • Joe & Marie Grasso • David Gross • Kim & John Haines-Eitzen • Nelson Hairston • George & Mary Hamlin • Richard & Linda Hawks, Jr. • Bill Hecht • Honda of Ithaca • Michael & Ruth Hosey • Mary Elizabeth landoli & Todd Miner • Lucia & Georg Jander • Jay Janowsky & Joan Tardif • Barbara Keeton • Bruce & Anne Kennedy • John & Louise Kingsbury • Charles Knauf • Mary Lee & Richard Kokosa • Mary Jane & Rick Kornbau • Lecesse Construction • Donald & Janet Lein • Norman & Susan Lindenmuth • Howard & Harriet London • Macy and Lucy Harris Family Fund at the Community Foundation of Sarasota County • Daniel & Kirsten Mahar • Marvin and Annette Lee Foundation, Inc. • William & Regina Mastroleo • William McCleary & Maxine Long • Alan Midura & Spring Buck • Sarah & Ralph Miozzi • Bart Natoli & Janice Scully • Elizabeth Newbold & Cory Steckler • Beth Newell • Deborah O'Connor & Peter Lepage • Ken & Graham Ottoson • Carmelina Pagano • Edward Pearsall • Pogel, Schubmehl & Ferrara, LLC • Bard & Gina Prentiss • Pauline Puccia • Skippy Raines • Beverly Anne Reed • Lisa Ringus • Steven Rockey • Jeffra Ruesink & Dylan Kuckes • John & Brenda Schouten • Danny Scott • Robert Seem • Scott & Marcia Sheavly • Mike & Tarry Shipley • James & Janis Smith • Richard & Patricia Smith • David Smith • Beverly & Larry Snively • Jewel Snow • William Standish • Dennis Stein • Laura Stenzler & Karel A. Schat • Kyra Stephanoff & Paul Steen • Tracy Stokol & John Parker • Alan & Sandy Stone • Patricia J. Sullivan • Kristin & Charles Swain • Travis Hyde Properties • Karen & Al Tricomi • Tony & Mary Tripeny • James & Salli Tuozzolo • David & Lucia Tyler • Robert Van Brunt • Thomas VanDerzee & Jane Bender VanDerzee • John & Jean Vincent • Dax & Rielly Vlassis • James & Margaret Webster • Leah Weinberg & Paul Barron • David & Heather Wheat • Colleen Wilmot • Jim & Marsha Wooster • Bill & Valerie \$100-249 Anonymous (4) • John Abel • Judith Abrams • Andy Ackerman & Ann Fridland • Adirondack Mountain Club - Onondaga Chapter • Joan Albern • Diane Albrecht • Paul Allderige • Paige Anderson & Michael Pinnisi • Britta Anderson • John M. Andersson • Ronald Applegate & Rosemary Batt • Chip & Wendy Aquadro • Betsy & Gerald Archibald • David Arkin • Brian Armstrong • Kevin & Kathleen Armstrong • Chris Asbury • Alan Avery, Jr. • Ellen Avril • Donald Babcock • Gloria Baciewicz • Natalie Baker • Timothy Baker • Lisa Ballard • Jesse Bank • Don Barber & Rita Rosenberg • Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Barrett • Marcia Barry • Grace Bates • Ernie & Carol Bayles • Jackie Bays • Robert Beck • Douglas Beech • Sam & Lucia Beer • John Behler • Barney & Linda Beins • David Benn • Onda & Fred Bennett • Rodney Bent • Donald & Barbara Bergmann • Gary & Fran Bergstrom • Karen Bertino • Bob & Sherrill Betts • Betty Birdsey • Thomas Bjorkman & Ann Raffetto • Martha Blair • Richard Blair • Jane & Donald Blake • Douglass Blanding • Thomas & Marilyn Blythe • Constance Brace & Paul Higman • Ruth Bradley • Teresa Braell • William & Rosalie Brantley • David Breit • Kevin & Vicki Brew • Richard & June Brickwedde • Lucinda Briggs • Susan & Joel Brock • Jane Bronson • Nancy Brooks • William Brothers • John & Marcia Browning • Joan & David Brumberg • Roy Buchta & Diane M. Redington • Louise Buck • Ernest Buffalino • Susannah Buhrman-Deever • Mary Ann Burch Nobben • Jean Burns • Sarah Jane Burton • Edward Bush • Dean & Janice Butts • Byrne Dairy, Inc. • John & Ellen Cain • Elaine Caldarone • Robert & Jane Calkins • Sean Callahan • Rita & Joe Calvo • Marvin & Patricia Carlson • Susan Carpenter • Mary & Charles Carroll • Sean Carter • Stephen Carter • Betsy & John Carver • Tom & Lisa Cavataio • Cayuga Bird Club • Cayuga Landscape Co. • Jim Chamberlain & Karen Dyson • Allan Chambliss • Tammy Chatkin-Newman • Wayne & Mary Chauncey • Gary & Bonnie Chollet • James & Clarissa Cioletti • Alfred & Patricia Clark, Jr. • Marilyn Clary • William Clay • Tom & Susan Close • Tom & Linda Clougherty • Robert Cockram • Ronnie & Charlotte Coffman • Leonard Cohen & Linda Frank • Alan & Candace Collmer • Paula & Ed Conan • John & Carol Condemi • Karen & John Confer • Scott Conking • Stephen & Deborah Conroy • Richard & Jane Constantino • Rob & Anna Cook • Kay Cooke • Jeff & Elizabeth Coons • Robert & MaryDan Cooper • Ray & Donna Copson • Charles Corby • Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine • G. Walton & Jean Cottrell • Roger Covell • John & Debra Covell • Lorraine Coyne • Carolyn Crump • Robert & Rebecca Culbertson • Jonathan Culler • Norman & Olivia Culver • James & Jackie Curley • Philip Cusick • Peter Dady • Dick & Claire Damaske • George & Alice Damp • Steve Daniel & Joan Zeller • Phil Dankert • Susan Danskin • Tob & Joan de Boer • Sandra Deagman • Robert Jeffrey Dean • Jim & Pat DeCaro • Paul & Annette DeCarolis • Daniel & Christine Decker • Thomas & Kathleen Defazio • Ralph & Cynthia DeFelice • David Delchamps • Natalie Denton • Linda Dickinson & Ira Rabois • David Dickinson • Michael Dillon • Barbara & Frank DiSalvo • Sharon Dittman • Martin Dodge • Dora Donovan • Camille Doucet • Peter Dougherty & Dawn Dybowski • Stephen Down • Eric Dreyfuss • Jane Dunham • Forrest & Sara Earl • Linda Eberly • Leslie & Richard Éhrlich • Stephen & Natalia Emlen • Michael Engle • Tonya & Adam Engst • Chris & Elaine Engst • Peter & Melissa Enns • Richard Entlich & Ilene Gaffin • Scott Erbland • Robert & Nicolena Errico • William Estes • Elizabeth Estes • David Evelyn & Jennifer Weinraub • Jim & Susan Eyster • Gregory & Sally Ezra • Mary Faber • Anne Fairbanks • Cornelia Farnum & Jack Booker • Roger & LeMoyne Farrell • Howard & Rosalind Feinstein • Laura Felberg, Carol Hunt, Paul Bogden, and Nancy Sweeney • Shirley Feldmann • Gary Fellows & Gwen Stockdale-Fellows • Achilles & Candy Filios • John & Roben Findlay • Finger Lakes Trail Conference • Robert & Sandra Finn • Five Mile Point, LLC • David & Mary Flinn • David & Alanna Fontanella • Thomas & Julietta Foster • R. James Foster • Roger Foster • John & Gretchen Fox • Barbara Fox • William & Barbara Fry • Carol Fudge • D. Mark & Judith Fultz • Daniel Fultz • James Gaffney • Lisa & Jon Gandelot • Robert & Louise Ganley • Sally W. Garvey • Vicki Gayle • David & Sharon Gerber • Beth Gerrard • Laurel Gibbs • Margaret Giblin • Gladys Gifford & Alvin Schuster • Curtis & Susan Gillette • Ann & Daniel Gold • William Goldsmith • Robert & Lois Gosse • Mr. & Mrs. David Graham • continued on page 10



continued from page 9 Constituted from page 9

Judith Graper • Jane Graves • Carolyn Grigorov • John Guckenheimer & Meredith Kusch • Jennifer Haack • Helen & Christian Haller • Dale & Karen Hallings • Hugh & Mary Clare Hamlin • Jane & Fred Hampton • Karen Hansen & Robert Schneider • Brian & Maureen Harkins • Peter Harriott • Ronald & Rebecca Harris-Warrick • Susan Hartwell • John Hassett & Judith Crawford • Sarah Hatcher • Lee & Sandy Hatfield • John Hemphill • Sue Hemsath • Tony & Carol Henderson • Christopher L. Henley • John & Susan Herbert • Ron Herring & Valerie Bunce • Mary & Steve Hershey • Theodore Hill & Anne Connelly Hill • Diane Hillman • Sarah & Daniel Hincks • Roger & Suzanne Hinderliter • Nancy Hitchcock • Eric Hobday • Laurel Hodgden • Charles & Julianne Hoffman • Dan Hoffman • Ned & Louise Holmes • HOLT Architects, P.C. • Arthur & Maureen Holtzman • Clifton Hood • Saralinda Hooker • Leah Horwitz • William & Betty House • Claire & Rob Howard • Joe & Eleanor Hubbard • Richard Hubbell • Donald & Margot Hughes • Mr. & Mrs. Jack M. Hultz • Robert Hunt • Christopher Husson • Jack & Barbara Jean Hustler • Kenneth & Jeanne Hutton • David & Ursula Hutton • Kenneth Hyde & Nellie Ramsden • Charles & Barbara Inturrisi • Nita Irby & Tom Divers • Peter Isler Lisa Jacobs
 Laurence
 Katherine Jacobs
 Marcia Jacobson
 Daniel Schwarz • Andre & Jean Jagendorf • John & Susan Jaquette • Thomas Jeffers James Jenkins & Kathy Kelly
 Jon & Mel Jensen
 Robert Jetty
 Jewish Federation of Greater Dayton Foundation • Louise Malia & Steven Johnson • Bruce Johnson • Alan Johnson & Lin Kroeger • Laurel Jones • Steven Jones • Robin & Joyce Jowaisas • Judith Woll, M.D. Philanthropic Fund of the Jewish Federation of Greater Dayton • Karen Kamfjord • Matt Kamine • Anna Keeton • Sakshi Keeton • Petra & Stephan Keller • Paul & Shirley Kellogg • Susanne Kennedy • Richard & Barbara Kent • Graham Kerslick Harry & Doraline Kesten • Karl & Leslie Kieburtz • Roger & Dolores Kiel • Shirley Knauf • Mary Knepper • Barbara Knuth & Kurt J. Jirka • Heinz & Judy Koch • Gary Kochersberger • Susan Luther Koon • Warren & Rebecca Koontz • Debbie Koop & Lenhart Saner • Victoria Korth • Joseph & Gracia Koziol • Mr. & Mrs. Robert Kozlowski • David & Susan Kramer • John & Barbara Krout • Carol Krumhansl & Jeff Roberts • Mary La Dine • Lakewood Vineyards • Victor & Sheri Ann Lamoreaux • Peter & Betsy Landre • Calvin Lange • Carolyn Lange • Timothy & Susan Larkin • Donald & Deborah Lauper • League of Women Voters of Tompkins County • Lynn Lenihan • Stefanie Levner Martin • Amy Lichtenstein • Lifespan PT, OT and SLP Services • Rick Lightbody • Kathleen E. Lilley • John Lis & Martha Hamblin • Edward Littlehales • James & Jane Littwitz • Ann Livingston • James & Susan Locke, III • Dennis & Ashby Longwell • Lois Lounsbery • Jack & Janet Lowe • Jonathan & Cynthia Lunine • Mary & Raymond Luthi • Jerry & Rosemary Luzum • Barbara Lynch • Tom Lyons • Lee Macbeth • Rob & Margaret Mackenzie • Ian Mackenzie • Marshall & Sharon Magee • John & Peggy Manring • Richard & Darlene Marino • Susan Mark • Lawrence S. Marks • Michael Masica • Mitchell Masters & Anne Moffat • Janice Maxwell • Saoirse McClory & Larry Hirschberger • Charles McClure • Ryan McConnell • Roger & Darlys McDonough • James McGarry • Richard & Sandra McGavern • Marie McKee & Robert Cole • Margaret McKinney • McKnight Foundation • Mr. & Mrs. Gardner H. McLean • Nancy Medsker • Bob Meek & Katheleen Reidy • Adrian Melissinos • George Mercier • Peter Merrill • Michael Meyer • Vicki Meyers-Wallen • Donna Lee Middleton & Paul Sarokwash • James Miller & Chrissie Schelhas Miller • Peter Miller • Jonathan Miller & Rebecca Nelson • Andrew Miller • A. Meredith Millman • Donald Mintz • Melisa Moonan • Joan Moore • Frank Moran • Rhonda Morton • Diane Morton & Ken Kemphues • Robert & Carolyn Mrazek • Bruce & Barbara Mueller • Mark Muller • Robert & Sally Neumann • William & Sandra Nichols • Stuart & Carol Norris • Mary Beth Norton • Wendell Norvell • Barbara Nussbaum • Ray Oglesby • Frieda O'Hanlon • William Olbricht • Bob & Becky Olsen • Charles O'Neil • Onondaga Audubon Society • Mitchell Orenstein • Mr. & Mrs. Cal Organ • Larry & Linda Orkin • Patricia Orr • Bernard J. Oseroff • Barbara Page • Dr. & Mrs. Frederick Parker • Rosemarie Parker & Sol Gruner • Lynne Pascale • Mary Ella Passage • Marilyn & Jerry Passer • David & Michelle Pastel • Taylor Peck • Catherine Penner • Robert & Penelope Peterson • David Piacquad • Alphonse Pieper & Betsy Shrier • Judith Pierpont • Daniel Pluff • William Plummer • Robert & Karin Pohl • Carrie & John Pollak • Okke & Kathy Postma • Leah Powell • Lloyd Powell • Marvin & Allison Pritts • Donald & Robin Pulver • Joel Rabinowitz & Dorothy Pomponio • Raziur Rahman • Don & Sue Rakow • Joan Ramage & Leo Macdonald •

Don & Carol Randel • Kathy Rayburn • Marie Read • Martha Reddout • Richard Reice • Patrick & Anne Reilly • Sally Reimer • John & Judith Reppy • Richard & Janet Richmond • Thomas & Susan Riley • Christopher Riley Thomas & Mary Ann Rishel • David Rittenhouse • Susan Ritter • Martha & Steve Robertson • Susan Robinson • Nancy Robinson • Joan Robinson • Virginia & Lawrence Rockwell • Turk & Beth Rose • Rosenblatt, Radezky, Schiff & Tepper, CPAs, P.C. • Stephen Rosenfeld • Kathleen Roth • Judith Rothenberg • Gordon Rowland & Anne Stork • Kristin Rowles & Paul Ferraro • Eric Ruckert • Nerissa Russell • Linda Ruth • Joan Ryan • Richard & Janice Ryan • Lisa Saether • James & Sherry Samuel • Natalie Scavone • Ted Schiele & Christine Griffin • Kenneth Schmitt & Dorothy Rizzo • Schmitt Real Estate • Jeff & Kris Schneider • Henry Scholl • David Schwaner • David Schwartz • Leslie & Bonnie Schweizer • Paul & Lauren Schweizer • Mr. & Mrs. Craig Scott • Thomas & Robin Seeley • Geoffrey Sharp • Jan & Mike Shay • Emma Lou & Abdul Sheikh • Philip & Lucy Sheils • Karl & Susan Shell • Robert Shephard & Sandra L. Keith • Sloan & Heather Sheridan-Thomas • Rachel & Matt Sherman • Jerald Shing & Duane Diviney Mike & Karen Shuler • Linda Simkin • Jane Sinclair • Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Sinton • Patrizia Sione • Carol Sisler • Skaneateles Rotary Foundation • Peter & Lynn Smith • Cliff Smith & Bernie Todd • Charles Smith • Susan Smith • Philip Snyder • Judy Sobczak • Susan Soboroff • Lori Sonken & Marc Messing • South Hill Elementary School • George Spak & Jane Hoteling • James & Christina Spengler • David St. George & Lisa Wood Simon & Mary St. Laurent
 Staff of the Weill Cornell Graduate School of Medical Sciences • Mike Stahlbrodt • Jeffrey Stannard • Raymond Stark • Jack & Patty Starke • Todd & Mary Jane Stell • David & Karen Stern • William & Ćarol Stokes-Cawley • David & Patricia Stone • Sheila Stone & Charlie Strohman • Carol Striefer • Michael Strok • David & Grace Strong Sun Agua Condominium Association
 John & Natasha Suter
 Steve & Cheryl Swartout • R.W.W. & Jo H. Taylor • Ellen Taylor • Jim & Dannie Taylor • Philip & Diane Tennant • Nancy Testani • The Jermy Family • Janet Thigpen • John Thomas • Christopher & Kathryn Thomas • Kate & Rob Thomas • John & Pamela Thompson • Liz & Ed Thorndike • Nancy Tiedemann • James & Deborah Tifft • Rebecca Tinio • Bo & Patty Torrey Danny Tourance • James Trondsen • Yohko Tsuji • Mr. & Mrs. Samuel Tucker • Mark & Lynn Turnquist • Francis J. Uhlir • George Urich • Margaret Usdansky & Gustav Niebuhr • Charles Vacanti • George Van Arsdale • Jerome & Mary Van Buren • Marjon & Yde van der Meulen • Robbert VanRenesse & Lesley Greene • Donald & Jeanne Varney • Jack & Judy Varney • Stewart & Ursula Vernooy • Donn Vickers & Sharon Sachs • Johan Visser & Michael Williams • Earnest Volpe • Carl Waldbauer • Pamela & Robert Walker • Charlie & Susan Wallace • Norm & Margaret Ward • Simeon Warner • Paul Warrender • Linda Waymire • David & Dawn Wayne • Iared Weeden • Frederick & Alice Weeman • Amalia Weinberg • Mr. & Mrs. Aaron Weinberg • Tom & Maureen Welch • Nancy Wells • John Wertis • West Wind Consulting • Walter Westfall • William White • Albert & Margaret White • Alfred & Angela White • Maurice & Steffi White • Doug & Peg Whitehouse • Mark Whitmore • Robert Whitney • Jennifer Wilkie • Marion & William Wilmot • David Wilson & Anne Clark • Mary Anne Winfield • Scott & Mary Ellen Winkelman • David Winkler & Amy McCune Joan Winters
 Kendra & Donald Witter
 Katherine Wolf & Peter Clark Mariana Wolfner & Jim Rothenberg • Jim Wood • Roswell & Linda Wood • Duncan Wormer & Barbara Benedict • Susan Wulff • Stephen & Amy Yale-Loehr • Michael Yates • Suan Yong • Jack Young • Rob Young & Katherine Lieberknecht • Ellen & Neal Zaslaw • Victoria Zeppelin We gratefully acknowledge the following donors for their generous donations of gifts in-kind Atwater Vineyards • Louise & Burch Craig • Damiani Wine Cellars • Heron Hill Vineyards, Inc. • John & Robin Moss Hinchcliff • Ruth & Roger Hopkins • Ithaca Bakery • La Tourelle • Lamoreaux Landing Wine Cellars • Patience Brewster, Inc. • Pioneer Printing • Stuart & Lucy Schweizer • Standing Stone Vineyards • T.G. Miller P.C. • Wagner Vineyards • Wegmans Pro bono Attorneys Katie Henderson (Donald A. Schneider Law Firm) • Tim Lynn (Centolella Lynn D'Elia & Temes LLC) • David Tyler (Gutman & Wallace Attorneys At Law) • Christopher K. Werner (Boylan

*Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy and completeness of this list. If we have made an error, accept our apologies and please notify us.

A CLOSER LOOK

A Much Closer Look at the Red-Bellied Snake

All winter, the red-bellied snake (Storeria occipitomaculata) has hunkered down in various hideyholes—anthills, abandoned burrows, rock crevices—in the company of other small snakes. Come spring, it will shake off the torpor of hibernation and strike out on its own. It will be looking for a moist, shady location, which may be a forest, a wet meadow, or, very often, your flowerbed or garden. If you have a touch of ophidiophobia, don't worry: at only seven to ten inches long and with a head no thicker than the rest of its body, this tiny reptile might well be mistaken for a healthy-sized night crawler.

The red-bellied snake often hangs around gardens because they are full of soft, delectable invertebrates like slugs, snails, and earthworms. Its long, slender, recurved teeth are shaped like escargot forks, perfect for getting a purchase on slimy creatures. It is a particularly determined hunter of snails. In order to extract a juicy morsel from its unpalatable casing, the snake gets a grip on the soft parts, digs in, and pulls until the snail tires and can be removed from its shell.

Although a formidable foe of slugs, this little creature is a milquetoast. It's an easy mark for crows, raptors, raccoons, cats, other snakes, and people who do not recognize it for the helpful garden warden that it is. Its best defense is to avoid detection altogether, so it spends most of its time hiding in dark, moist places under rocks, boards, and other debris. If it must emerge, its nondescript brown or gray back provides perfect camouflage against the earth.

When it cannot avoid conflict, it will try to bluff its way out of danger. It may first try flattening its head and body in a vain attempt to appear larger. If the attacker is persistent, it will thrash around, releasing a slimy mixture of feces and foul-smelling musk from its anal glands and flashing its red or orange belly. Bright colors often signal noxiousness in the animal world, and you would do well not to chew

on a monarch butterfly or a red eft, but the red-bellied snake is nonvenomous. In fact, since it is regularly eaten by everything from shrews to chickens to bass, it appears to be quite tasty. If you pick it up, it may startle you by curling its upper jaw bones outwards and turning its lip scales back in a tiny snarl, rubbing the side of its mouth against your hand. It's not known what this behavior is intended to achieve, as its teeth are far too tiny to do damage to any but the smallest adversaries. It will not bite, as if it already knows that biting anything harder than a slug would be futile. If nothing else works, it may go into theatrical convulsions and play dead. This otherwise convincing performance is somewhat marred by the fact that it insists that a dead snake must remain upside down; if placed on its belly, it will roll on its back again.

Like 20 percent of snake species, the red-bellied snake is viviparous, giving birth to live young in late summer or early autumn. Viviparity is a common trait in the reptile world because it confers distinct advantages, especially in uncertain environments. While inside the mother, the young are protected from predators, disease, dehydration, and temperature fluctuations. The female can regulate her own body temperature by basking in the sun when it is cold and seeking shelter when it is hot, so the young can be kept at the optimal temperature for development; this gives snakes a critical edge in northern climates and high elevations where the soil tends to be cool and winter comes early. As is always true, however, what is good for the babies is bad for the mother. The female is seriously weighed down by her litter; the neonates are typically a third or even half the length of the mother, and the average litter size is eight. Once the litter is born, mother and babies go their separate ways. They will only encounter others of their kind when they den up for next winter.

—Jacqueline Stuhmiller



Finger Lakes Land Trust

Officers:

Stu Schweizer, *President* Ed Premo, *Vice President* John Alexander, *Secretary* Burch Craig, *Treasurer* Holly Gregg, *At-Large*

Board Members:

John R. Alexander
Dave Birchenough
Robert Brancato
Percy Browning
Doug Brush
Bill Eggers
Phil Greenberg
Marti Macinski

Carrie J. Pollak
Myra Shulman
Donald Specker
Jan Suwinski
Patty Weisse
Marianne Young
Mary Jo Yunis

Advisory Council:

James Byrnes
John Fitzpatrick
James Fralick
Barbara Hamlin
Albert Joerger
Lynn Leopold
Robert Mrazek
Cornelius B.

Murphy, Jr.

Richard Raines Mark Stash Doug Sutherland Liz Thorndike James Walsh David Zorn

Staff.

Andrew Zepp, Executive Director Abbey Chernela, Office Manager Karen Edelstein, GIS Projects Manager Nomi Fridman, Finance Manager Jason Gorman, Land Steward Edie Jodz, Assistant Director of Development

Mary Johnson, *Development Associate*Kelly Makosch, *Director of Development and Communications*Elizabeth Newbold, *Land Protection Specialist*

Zachary Odell, Director of Land Protection

Chris Olney, *Director of Stewardship* Kris West, *Senior Field Representative*

Newsletter Editors: Eben McLane, Krishna Ramanujan

Newsletter Layout: Leigh Dezelan Advisors:

Legal Counsel: Randy Marcus; Miller Mayer, LLP; Peter Miller; Richard Ruswick; True, Walsh, & Schubert, LLP

Forestry Consultant: Michael DeMunn Stewardship Advisor: Betsy Darlington

Finger Lakes Land Trust

202 E. Court Street
Ithaca, New York 14850
Ph: 607-275-9487
Fax: 607-275-0037
email: info@fllt.org • www.fllt.org





Return Service Requested

NON-PROFIT U.S. POSTAGE PAID TRUMANSBURG, NY PERMIT NO. 1

Spring 2015 Calendar

Wednesday, June 3rd from 12 noon – 1:30pm: Planned Giving Workshop at the Wood Library, 134 North Main Street in Canandaigua—Please join us for an informative workshop on tax-advantaged ways to build charitable gifts into your financial plan. Learn more about how you can leave a legacy from Jim Terwilliger, PhD, CFP, Senior Vice President for the Wealth Strategies Group at Canandaigua National Bank and Trust. A light lunch will be provided. Please rsvp to the Land Trust at 607-275-9487 or by e-mail to: info@fllt.org

Monday, June 8th at 7:00pm: A Special Gathering to Discuss Plans for Candor's Logan Hill Nature Preserve at the Candor Fire Station Hall, 74 Owego Road in Candor—Please join us for a special public gathering to discuss plans for our newest nature preserve. The 285-acre Logan Hill Nature Preserve, just outside the village of Candor, offers stunning views of southern tier hilltops and includes open fields, forested ravines, wetlands and frontage on Catatonk Creek. General information about the Land Trust and conservation options available to landowners will also be provided. For map and directions, please visit: http://www.candorfire.org/location

Saturday, June 13th at 10:00am: The Land Trust's 26th Annual Meeting and Celebration at Brook Farm overlooking beautiful Skaneateles Lake—Please see insert for details.

Saturday, June 20th: *HIKEapalooza!* Hike, Bike, Paddle, & Explore with the Land Trust as we host an event in every county of the Finger Lakes to celebrate our successful land protection efforts across the region. *Please see insert for details*

PLEASE SEE INSERT FOR THE SCHEDULE OF OUR SPRING 2015 TALKS & TREKS SERIES

See our web site for maps and photos of the preserves.

WALKS GO RAIN, SUN OR SNOW. PLEASE BRING SNACKS AND WATER, AND WEAR STURDY SHOES. CALL THE LAND TRUST AT (607) 275-9487 FOR DETAILS.