



The Four Town Land Trust News



Volume 1 Number 2

East Windsor, Ellington, Enfield, and Somers, Connecticut

Autumn 1988

4TLT RECEIVES DONATION OF LAND

On December 20th, 1988, the Four Town Land Trust was deeded fifty-two acres of hillside in northeastern Somers. Given by a donor who would prefer not to be named in any publicity, the land borders on the state line and is fairly close to Stafford. It is a beautiful place, with ledges and glacial boulders dotting the forested climb to a high shelf with a gorgeous view to the west over the broad expanse of the Connecticut Valley. Well, actually, the potential for a gorgeous view - we would have to cut a few trees before anyone could actually see it. None of us has been over all of the land yet, so there are undoubtedly features yet to be discovered. There are already a few trails on the land which we hope to improve, and we expect to blaze a few new ones.

From what I've said, you can guess that we have a little work ahead of us in improving the land. We will gladly take on any volunteers who would like to help out with the work- the kind of work that you can really feel good about. Besides helping a charitable organization and improving a bit of nature for all to enjoy, you can get good exercise without paying to go to a fitness center!

We would like to thank our benefactor for the great generosity and dedication to the ideal of preserving open space shown in donating this land to us. There is no way that we can give enough thanks to do the gift justice, so what thanks we can offer will have to suffice. Thank you!

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

It's that time of year again - the end. December 31st is the end of our membership year, so it's time for us to renew our memberships. It seems like it's been a long time; that's because when we started in August of 1987 we decided to make the membership year the same as the calendar year, and also decided not to make everyone pay full annual dues for the few months remaining in 1987. Anyone who joins after September 15th of any year gets from then to the end of the year for free, so anybody who joined since September 15th, 1988 can ignore this notice. For those of you who do have dues due, please pay them fairly soon so we won't have to send a separate reminder later.

Do you know what else December 31st marks? The cutoff date for deductible donations. You'll notice that the membership renewal form has a space for additional donations; please take this opportunity to donate what you feel appropriate to support such a worthy cause. All donations are fully tax deductible, and will go toward our efforts to preserve open space in the four towns. Thank you in advance.

P.S. If you know of anybody who might welcome the opportunity to make such a donation, even if they aren't a member, please don't hesitate to bring the Land Trust to their attention.

1989 Four Town Land Trust Dues:

Regular	\$20.00
Associate	\$10.00
Family	\$30.00
Additional donation	\$_____

Please make checks payable to:

Four Town Land Trust, Inc.
Melrose Road
Melrose, CT 06049

Note: Membership dues are not tax deductible as charitable donations.

SQUARE DANCE

The square dance I told you about in the first newsletter was held as promised on June 3rd, and despite the rain can be considered a success. The attendance was low enough - probably because of the rain - that we only did a little better than break even, but the people who did come enjoyed themselves immensely. They had so much fun, in fact, that by popular demand another was held on August 5th and a third on October 28th.

All three dances were held at Jack Collins' farm in Enfield and featured caller Ralph Sweet, live music, and plenty of refreshments. The August dance was much better attended than the June one despite the heat, approaching the barn's capacity of a hundred dancers. The October dance being on Halloween weekend, it was a costume square dance, and prizes were awarded for the best costumes. First prize went to a cow which had Tim McGuire inside of it. First prize for children went to Pippi Longstocking, who was played by Sarah Humphries. The attendance wasn't quite as high as for the August dance, but was still quite good.

We'd like to continue holding dances, but with winter here and Collins' barn unheated the cold could be a problem. As a remedy, Ralph Sweet has offered to hold a joint dance in his barn in Powder Hollow during the winter, and the directors have decided to take him up on it. The details haven't been decided yet, but notice will be sent out when we have them. His barn is just down the hill and across the river from Jack's farm, which is on Powder Hill.

ANNUAL MEETING HELD

The Four Town Land Trust held its second annual meeting September 29th at the Melrose Schoolhouse. It was a supper meeting, with members bringing a good selection of food, potluck style. After the meal, we were treated to a presentation by George Malia on the state's Purchase of Development Rights program. Questions and discussion followed, and those present learned a lot about the current status of the state's preservation of farmland.

The business meeting followed, and here's what happened:

-Arend-Jan Knuttel and William Reynolds were reelected as Directors and Linda Allegro and Tex Mulnrite were elected as new Directors for the Land Trust.

-A slight revision to the bylaws concerning membership was adopted.

-A slate of officers was elected, comprised of the following:

President - George Grant

Vice President - Don Smith

Secretary - Ruth Phillips-Grant and Lois Osier


Treasurer - Albert Grant

Director-at-large - Jack Collins

-The meeting dates for the monthly directors meetings were changed to the fourth Tuesday of each month, at 7:30 P.M. at the Melrose Schoolhouse. That means our next few meetings will be held on January 24th, February 26th, and March 28th. The meetings are open, and all are encouraged to attend. December 27th

**THE FOUR TOWN LAND TRUST NEWS is published by the
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All comments contained herein are those of the editor and are not necessarily those of the Trust.

 THE FOUR TOWN
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SQUARE DANCE