

The LAND TRUST NEWS

PRESERVING SPECIAL PLACES IN OUR COMMUNITY

WWW.RWLT.ORG RIDEAU WATERWAY LAND TRUST - EST. 1996 Winter 2008



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www.rwlt.org
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The Land Trust News

Rideau Waterway Land Trust Receives Gift of 147 Acres of Woodlands

As the result of a generous donation from a RWLT supporter, the Trust has established its 15th nature preserve. This significant woodland property is located in our southernmost region and will be known as Nicholson's Point Woods.

Working with the Trust, the landowner wished to see the land preserved in perpetuity for the benefit of the community. The property is home to a variety of plant and animal species, which our biologist Simon Lunn looks forward to continue to document next year as part of our baseline inventory and ongoing monitoring initiatives.



"Land, they ain't making it anymore!" - Will Rogers



Message From our President Doug Lewis

In the early 1990's four visionaries met in Chaffey's Lock to consider ways to preserve important natural lands and habitats in the Rideau Corridor. Out of this meeting grew the Rideau Waterway Land Trust (RWLT). Here we are 12 years later and the RWLT has acquired a growing portfolio of 15 significant properties but there is much more to be done.

The importance of preserving natural lands and the role they play in improving the environment is becoming better understood by many people. However, the role the "RWLT" plays in preserving these lands is not as well known to many in our communities. I see a need for the RWLT to reach out to these individuals to make the vision of land trusting better understood and to make the RWLT, its goals and accomplishments, better known. In doing so, this will develop even more support for the RWLT.

This past year the RWLT participated in "Eco Fairs" and it was an eye opening experience for some of us. I say it was an eye opener in that we were overwhelmed by the level of interest and the demand for information about our Land Trust.

These experiences confirmed the need to develop more capacity to effectively reach out to the broader community. In preparation, the RWLT used the talents of some of its volunteers and staff and the financial support of Ontario Trillium Foundation, to create a quality display which we will take to future speaking engagements and Eco Fairs to more effectively tell our story.

A measure of success of a land trust is the level of community engagement; the size of its membership and the number of volunteers and the financial resources they bring to their organization. I see the RWLT as a respected land trust but there is a need to do more. We need to engage our members to help us in the task of moving the RWLT forward.

I see a need to create more volunteer opportunities and challenge our members to become more engaged in the programs of the RWLT. In particular to help the RWLT reach out to the community to tell the story about the importance of preserving significant properties and to deliver our message about how the RWLT can make this happen.

As President, I will be working with the Board and staff to contact you, our members, to discuss opportunities to enable you to get more involved and help the RWLT to grow. Thank you

Doug Lewis

The Rideau Waterway Land Trust Special Event in Kingston

APRIL 12TH 2009 The Land Trust will hold our Kingston Annual Dinner at Mino's Dining Room. We hope you will be able to join us for an evening of fun and fellowship. Formal invitations will be sent to you in January.

Our guest speaker will be Mr. Jay Espy. Mr. Espy speaks passionately about the work of Land Trusts in both Canada and the United States. He is President of the Maine Coast Heritage Trust, Topsham, ME, Past President of the U.S. Land Trust Alliance and a member of the Board of the Canadian Land Trust Alliance.

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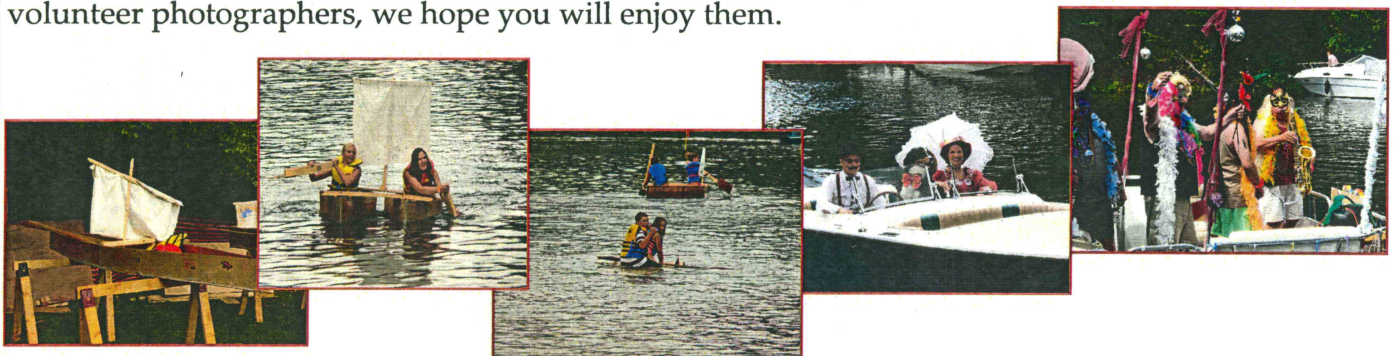
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Corn Roast 2008

The Annual Corn Roast at Chaffey's Lock was a great success again this year. In spite of the late afternoon rain, the crowds gathered, the music rocked and Enbridge Gas team cooked over 600 burgers and dogs. The locks were lined both sides as competitors dazzled the crowd with their decorated vessels at the Annual Boat Parade. This event is organized by the Swartz family and has become a crowd favourite. Fast & Furious Sea Trial competition is another great event to watch. Teams begin to build their boats at 1pm and at 5 o'clock they launch these remarkable vessels and sail to victory. Attached are a few photos taken at the event by Simon Lunn & Bill Tootill our volunteer photographers, we hope you will enjoy them.



Visit the RWLT Website. www.rwlt.org to find more info about the work of the Land Trust

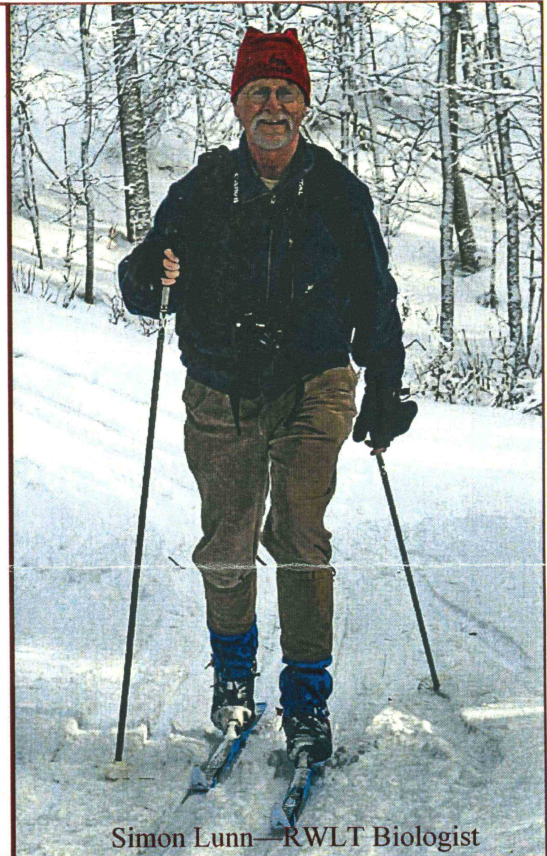
A Message From Simon Lunn

Each year at this time, we reach out to our supporters to consider making a special gift to help with the ongoing work of the Rideau Waterway Land Trust. We call this the "Annual Gift Campaign", not to be confused with your annual Membership renewal.

These special gifts from our "Annual Gift Campaign" help the Land Trust to grow our mandate to preserve and manage properties from Kingston to Ottawa. We are so grateful to have supporters such as you who are as passionate as we are about preserving very special places in our community.

Annual Gift Campaign request for support is attached. Please take a moment and send your gift to the RWLT.

Thank you - and have a Very Happy Holiday



Simon Lunn—RWLT Biologist

Our Board of Directors

Hon. Bob Rae, Honorary Chair

Doug Lewis - President

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Simon Lunn –Director

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We wish you a safe and happy holiday season!



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The Rideau Waterway Land Trust believes the preservation of ecologically sensitive and cultural heritage lands is important to protect the natural environment and improve the quality of life in communities throughout the Rideau Corridor for the benefit of present and future generations.

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