# The LAND TRUST NEWS

#### PRESERVING SPECIAL PLACES IN OUR COMMUNITY

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#### RIDEAU WATERWAY LAND TRUST - EST. 1996

2010

### **INSIDE THIS ISSUE**

RWLT Dinner
RWLT Land Trust Festival
2009 Financial Report
Leadership Circle
2009 Donors List
Call for Volunteers
Brenda Carter Donation
Welcoming Hunter McGill

#### **Our Board of Directors**

Doug Lewis, President
Simon Lunn, Secretary
Neal Ritchie, Director
Peter Gillespie, Director
Hunter McGill, Director
Sharon Walker, ED
Dave Walker, Advisor

## Rideau Waterway LAND TRUST

The Land Trust News is published four times a year by the Rideau Waterway Land Trust, a charitable organization.

www.rwlt.org

## RWLT Dinner & Benefit Auction Land Preservation – A Community Affair

This year our event will be held on April 22<sup>nd</sup> at Minos Village, Kingston, so please Mark This Date.

Last year's event was a great success with over 125 members and supporters attending.

This year will be even more exciting so plan to join us for a fabulous meal and a chance to meet all of your friends.



Our inspiring Guest Speaker, Mr. Howard Clifford, will be here to tell the remarkable story of his family's decision to donate a conservation easement on their property of 1100 acres, which includes Blueberry Mountain named one of the Seven Wonders of Lanark County.

## **Land Trust Festival Returns**



After taking a one year break to give our volunteers a rest, the Rideau Waterway Land Trust (RWLT) will be returning this summer with its 11<sup>th</sup> Summer Festival. The RWLT Summer Festival will be held on Saturday July 31<sup>st</sup> at the Newboro Lock Station.

We have moved the festival to Newboro this year to accommodate the extra activities and additional community groups that want to be part of this day.

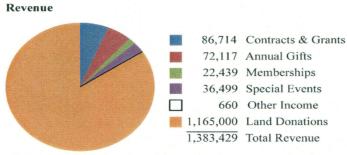
Dave Walker and Vince Watters are returning to lead the event and have promised a day full of activities for the whole family. In addition to the popular Fast and Furious Sea Trials, the big barbeque and the stage show featuring the band "Route 66", the added space will allow a full children's program in the afternoon as well as displays from the RWLT and other community groups to celebrate the natural landscapes in the Rideau Lakes area.

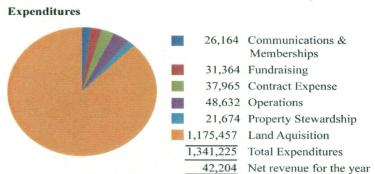
The Enbridge Gas Barbeque team are back and Parks Canada has committed their support. According to Dave and Vince, the RWLT and its many volunteers are looking forward to this day. It is RWLT's opportunity to invite the community to enjoy a day of fun and food while celebrating this great area we live in. The fun will begin at 10 a.m. and end at 11 p.m. when the band plays its last encore. For more information or to volunteer your time contact Sharon at the RWLT office.

## FINANCIAL REPORT - 2008/2009 BY: DAVE WALKER, RWLT ADVISOR

When one looks at the 2008 – 2009 financial statements it appears the Rideau Waterway Land Trust had a fantastic year. The staff, Board of Directors and volunteers are to be congratulated for the best financial year since the RWLT was incorporated in 1996. Revenues reached \$1.38 million with expenses of \$1.34 million generating a surplus of \$42,000 for the year. This pace may not continue, but already in the first 6 months of this fiscal year the RWLT is approaching \$600,000 in revenue. The major area of activity was in the land acquisition program, activity that saw the value of the land portfolio double. The Trust now manages 17 properties throughout the Rideau Corridor. One area of concern within the financial statements was the loss of 11% on the value of the RWLT Endowment Funds. Although an 11% loss in the turbulent financial times of the last 18 months is not considered unusual by most finance managers, the Board of Directors has taken action. Beginning in this fiscal year all new stewardship monies are being invested under the much more conservative RWLT Investment Policy with a new investment advisor. The RWLT may forego some windfall profits in good times but will earn steady revenue every year allowing for better budgeting.

But there is a cautionary note to these financial statements. The RWLT is spending just over 2% on fundraising. The Canadian Revenue Agency (CRA) issued a policy clarification on June 11, 2009 that, among other points, set out what is deemed appropriate for fundraising expenses for charities in Canada. The CRA feels it is appropriate for a Canadian charity to spend up to 35% of its total revenue on fundraising. Although the RWLT staff and volunteers are only spending 2% of revenues on fundraising, and are no doubt the envy of most other charities, the fundraising team consists of a very small number of key people. If any of these volunteers should want a rest and leave the RWLT then the RWLT, as an organization, would face difficulties as their revenue would fall. I believe it would be very prudent of the Board of Directors of the RWLT to add more resources to the fundraising team. Although there will be an additional cost to these resources it will still fall well below the 35% maximum recommended by CRA but the alternative of not building depth to the fundraising program is unthinkable.





## **Leadership Circle**

Like many charitable organizations the RWLT incurs operational expenses in the day to day running of the organization. These include the obvious expenses like telephone and insurance but sometimes it is the not so obvious that may surprise some, for example the cost of regulatory filings and year—end audits. Several years ago we invited our supporters to become members of the Leadership Circle by contributing \$1,200 per year in membership fees to be used exclusively for the operational costs of the organization. These people have shown true leadership and without them the sustainability of the RWLT would be much more difficult. Many have shown their commitment by joining the monthly giving club at \$100 per month.

#### The RWLT would like to thank:

- Karen Cooper,
- Peter Gillespie,
- Peter Hannah and Daphne Wretham,
- Doug and Wendy Lewis,
- Janice Ley and Eric Usherwood,
- Bryce and Nancy Walker, and
- Vince and Elaine Watters.

On behalf of all the members of the RWLT may we congratulate these members. For further information on this program please contact Sharon at the office.

### Thanks to the following Individuals and Businesses for their support from January 1st - December 31, 2009

#### \$10,000 and over

Brenda Carter Moe and Janet Johnson The Ontario Trillium Foundation

#### \$1000 - \$10,000

Harry Burgstaller Karen Cooper Molly Ellard Ross Forrest Peter Gillespie Peter Hannah Doug & Wendy Lewis Neal Ritchie Janice Ley & Eric Usherwood Bryce & Nancy Walker Vince & Elaine Watters

#### \$500 to \$999

David Bearman & Jennifer Trant **Donald Ferguson** Chris Fleming Joe & Mary Lou Hamilton James Heseltine K. Wayne Marshall Hunter McGill Cameron & Diana McRae Dave & Sharon Walker Muriel Walker Gaynor P. Williams The Davies Charitable Foundation

#### \$250 - \$499

Diane & Peter Arthur Krystyna Chelminska Catherine Depew Peter Dixon James Doran Wayne Gordon Diana Grinnell Andrew Hall John E. Hamilton John W. Hamilton Richard & Doreen Harley C. Ian Hembery Alan Hesketh Richard Hughson Simon Lunn George MacFarlane Janet Mackay Ray McLenaghan Peter Milliken George & Mary Riley Peter H. Skelton The Cove Twp. Of Rideau Lakes Kay Teschke Richard & Jean Van Loon

#### \$100 - \$249

Jim Whitehead

Contrary Club

W. David and Betty L Adlam Jim & Judy Barton Bernard Blaser David Boal John & Patricia Bonneau T. Bradbrooke Smith Willard & Helen Breon Colin R. Burnett

Pam & John Waddington

Katherine Cartwright Nancy & Pierre Chantraine Christopher K. Chapler Sterling Chapman Carol Chown Avery & Terry Cox Alan & Barbara Davison Jo-Anne Eady Constance Elliott John Ford **David Forkes** Henry N. Funk Paul Gammon Lindsay Geoffrey John Grenville Colin A. Haines John E. Hamilton Peter F. Hamilton William Hamilton Keith & Diane Haskins Charles & Ellen Hathaway

Michael Henderson James Hickman Leslie M. Higginson Dorene Hirsch Joseph Holmes Richard V. Holmes John Hoos Robert & Marilyn Horwood

Barbara Humphreys Cindy-Lou & Graham Hyde Doug Jarvis

Debra Maxwell

Barry & Shannon McCorquodale Fred McFarland & Heather Wilson

Stuart McIlwain Daniel McMahon Arthur & Joanne Miller Martin Moir

Jane Monaghan Harry & Sandra Murphy Glen Owen

John Palmer John & Brenda Peart Wanda Pearse Don & Irene Peebles Nancy Preston Bredbeck

Gordon Price

Paula Way Quong James Raffan Elizabeth Reipas Barbara Richart **David Roberts** W. Kirby Rowe Penny & Clyde Sanger David Sansom Gail Schwier

David & Carolyn Seburn

Brit Smith

Kenneth & Janet Stevens Judith Sutcliffe Frank S. Symons R. E. Taylor Eric Tremblay Anne Turnbull Robert & Ann Van Niel Orrin & Ruth Webber Margaret Wicklum

D.G. Mike Willis Jeffrey & Shirley Wimperis

Diana Wright

Gerard & Mary Wyatt Harry & Kathryn Zink

\$50 - \$99

Rebecca Aird George & Dini Blundell Arend Bonen

Nick & Jeanie Brown

Eileen Bruce

David & Susan Burke Chuck & Shirley Carlson

Chris Collins Jack & Bea Cook

Mike & Eileen Cosham Marguerite Daubney

Dennis and Joan Duncan Evelyn & Gene Edwards

Philip & Dorothy Evans

David W.B. Fair

Dr. Nelson & Maureen Freedman

John Ferguson Joy Gadd Thomas Geiger Lindsay Geoffrey John Harwood Janet Innis

Caroline & Walter Isard Sandra Conrad & Bill Jackson

E. Jezak **Neil Johnstone** Murray & Louise Kane

J. Harold Klosheim Jaromir Kouba Norman Laporte Judith Lilley

Paul MacKenzie Jean & Michael Macpherson Douglas & Karen Mahoney

Fraser Manders Don & Nancy McIntyre David Mc Nicoll & Janice Dowling

Sheila Menard & Susan Irving David & Annette Mess

William & Sandie Mills

**Beth Moores** Judy O'Neill Guy Oram Gary Osborne Frederick Pollitt

Nancy Preston Bredbeck

Margot Quinty Lee C. Scott Elizabeth M. Shore Klaus Stegemann Judith Sutcliffe Stan Teeple N. John Telgmann

Dr. Jennie Versteeg Alan Walker Jennifer & Jasper Wall

Howard Wheatley Janet C. White Terry & Mary Willing David & Denice Willis **Donald Witman** 

Elizabeth Wrenshall

#### \$25 - \$49

Kenneth & Mary Baer Rose-Marie Batley D.J. & Cynthia Battle

George & Margaret Bracken Ken Bruyere **Bob Chadwick** James E. Coke **Edmund Davis** Keith Davis Ron & Marlene Dobson Wendy Earl Walt & Michele Ebaugh Josh Elliot Nathalie Franchomme Nancy Cain & Gord Giffin Liam Giffin Margaret A. Hall

Cynthia Holz & William Grouchy Robert & Mary Hunter Eric Jones

Chris Kenney Robert A. King John Leggett Tim Lyon Gloria & Alexander Macklin

John & Catherine Mark Howard & Irene Martin **Bob Martin** 

Bill Melnichuk Ruel & Alice Mohnkern Gordon Montgomery

Kevin Nontell Linda Nuttall & Mark Chojnacki

Peter O'Meara

Brian & Lynda Overgaard

Saima Paidra John & Liz Palmer Murray Randall Dr. John C. Ribble Herb Simpson Christine Small Shirley Soden

Beverly Sponaugle Jim & Lyn Swartz Don Tate William & Lee Tootill

Evert Vanbolhuis Dave Warren John Watt Alex Watters Mary Anna Watters Jaffray & Arlene Wilkins

## **Property Donors**

Brenda Carter

#### **Special Event Sponsors**

Cement Lafarge CIBC Wood Gundy Kingston **Limestone Computer Solutions** Parks Canada Rideau Canal Performance Imports Phone Works Kingston Ltd. Robinson Solutions Inc Trailhead Kingston Wolfe Springs Golf and Waterfront Resort

If your name is missing or misspelled, please accept our apologies and let us know so we can change our records.

### **Volunteers Needed**

As many of you are aware the Land Trust depends on volunteers to help deliver its programs in the community. Over the years the RWLT has been very fortunate in having key volunteers step forward to give their time and expertise to the organization. We now need two new volunteers to step forward and lend a hand.

The RWLT is looking for a treasurer. After filling this role for close to 10 years, Dave Walker wants to step down. Although he will remain active in projects for the Trust, the RWLT needs someone to fill his shoes. The RWLT treasurer's position involves oversight of the bookkeeping staff, financial management and budgeting, working with the auditor on year end and oversight of the regulatory filings. If you or someone you know is interested in this position please contact Dave Walker at <a href="mailto:davew@clta.ca">davew@clta.ca</a>

The RWLT has a need to create a new volunteer position of "volunteer manager". The Trust has many members and supporters who have indicated that they would like to volunteer for various programs. We need someone who can co-ordinate these volunteers, keep the database up to date and know who to contact when a task needs doing. If you have an interest in this area please contact Sharon at the RWLT office.

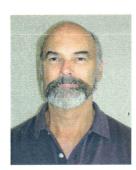


## **Brenda Carter Donation Completed**

The generous donation from Ms. Brenda Carter has been completed and the Trust has now accepted ownership and taken the responsibility to manage the 430 acre Brenda Carter Conservation Area and the 100 acre Carter-Phillips Nature Area. These two properties are located in the Burritt's Rapids area of the Rideau Corridor and both have extensive wetlands and upland forests. Brenda's special interest is in preserving song bird habitat and the Trust will continue to manage the properties to preserve this habitat. On behalf of the members and volunteers of the Rideau Waterway Land Trust we would like to thank Brenda and Gerard for their generous donation.



### **RWLT Welcomes Hunter McGill**



Many of you may know Hunter and his work in supporting volunteer groups in our community. Hunter has supported the RWLT since 1999 and has now joined the Board of Directors to share his expertise and enthusiasm.

Hunter is chair of the Board of Friends of the Rideau and Vice-Chair of the Board of the Ottawa Public Library Foundation. When not volunteering his time, Hunter is a consultant in international development cooperation with comprehensive knowledge of the global aid system and an in depth knowledge of humanitarian aid. He is also Senior Fellow at the School of International Development at the University of Ottawa.



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Charitable Registration # 89233-6348-RR0001

The mission of the RWLT is to preserve important natural lands and habitat in the Rideau Corridor and foster a healthy future for our communities.