

# The LAND TRUST NEWS

PRESERVING SPECIAL PLACES IN YOUR COMMUNITY

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RIDEAU WATERWAY LAND TRUST - EST. 1996

SPRING 2005

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- 7th Annual Corn Roast  
Chaffey's Lock  
July 30, 2005
- Land Trust Preserves  
12th Property
- Baseline Reports-  
What are they?
- Donor Recognition  
List 2004
- Membership Renewal  
Time
- Volunteer at Corn  
Roast 2005



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## *Corn Roast 2005 will Rock!*



### *The Cadillacs are Coming to Chaffey's Lock !*

The Rideau Waterway Land Trust volunteers and staff are working hard to bring you the best Corn Roast yet! Every year this event attracts more visitors and every year our volunteers strive to bring you better bands, better events and more memories.

It looks like 2005 will be one of the best. The Cadillacs will rock on stage with their celebration of music from the 40's to the 70's. This 8 piece showband will take you back to your teenage years and those special summer weekends at the cottage. The day begins with boat building for the Fast & Furious Sea Trials, Rideau Idol Singing Competition and lots of food.

This fun-filled day is a major fundraiser for your Land Trust so come and join your friends and neighbours and support the important work of the Rideau Waterway Land Trust.

**Mark your calendars for July 30, 2005**

#### *Comments from some fans:*

*"Wow, what a show! ... made us feel 16 again - not easy when you are 68! Your show brought back so many memories of when my husband & I danced to all those songs back in high school. Thanks for a fun-filled rockin' show!!!"*

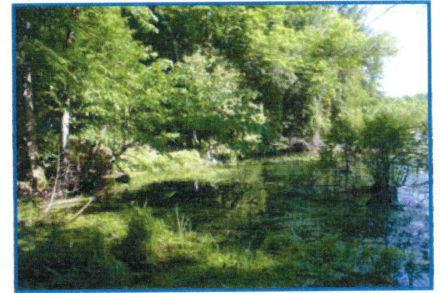
*Eason & Faye Dennison*

*"WHAT A RUSH! They were spectacular from the moment The Cadillacs erupted on stage until their final curtain call; we were clapping, swaying and singing with every song." The Andersons*

## Land Trust Preserves 12<sup>th</sup> Property

Working with the MacDonald's Island Cottage Association, the Trust has preserved its 12<sup>th</sup> property.

This property, to be known as the MacDonald's Wetland, has 3000 feet of shoreline and is part of the Provincially Significant Big Rideau Lake Wetland Complex. It is located just off Highway 15 on the eastern edge of Portland. This property makes a valuable addition to neighbouring wetlands already protected by the Conservation Authority and Ministry of Natural Resources.



The property includes a large bay that is dominated by cattails. In the summer, it provides habitat to literally hundreds of Red-winged Blackbirds. A second bay is part of the provincial fish sanctuary which plays an important role in sustaining the fish populations in our lakes.

The woodlands surrounding these bays are forested with Sugar Maple, Beech and Hemlock. On the day that Simon Lunn, the Trust's volunteer biologist, visited the site to prepare the Baseline Documentation Report, a Great Horned Owl was being "mobbed" by several dozen Crows and two Blue Jays while a **Red-shouldered Hawk** was calling out while circling above.

The habitat provided by both the wetlands and the surrounding woodlands will provide a valuable contribution to the ecological health of the Rideau Corridor for generations to come.

The Rideau Waterway Land Trust welcomes the opportunity to work with the MacDonald's Island Cottage Association in the continued preservation of these important wetlands.



### Threats to the **Red-shouldered Hawk**

Habitat loss impacts heavily on Red-shouldered Hawks. Destruction of huge expanses of timberland has severely limited suitable habitat, hence population sizes. Forest cutting and filling in of wetlands has diminished the numbers of available prey. Competition from Red-tailed Hawks and Great Horned Owls prohibits nesting in smaller woodlots. Both competitors are more able than the Red-shouldered Hawk to withstand the changing environmental conditions. Since the Red-tailed Hawk mates earlier in the season, it often usurps nesting sites previously established by a Red-shouldered Hawk. Humans have shot the bird, destroyed its nests and killed hatchlings. Effects of chemical poisoning are uncertain. Eggshell thinning and premature breakage have been reported.

*Information courtesy of Canadian Wildlife Services (CWS)*

## What is a Baseline Documentation Report?

As a member of the Ontario Land Trust Alliance, the Rideau Waterway Land Trust has adopted the Statement of Standards and Practices as the ethical and technical guideline for the responsible operation of a land trust.

As part of the Standards and Practices, the land trust prepares a Baseline Documentation Report for each of the properties or easements it acquires. This document is an accurate representation of the property at the time the trust accepts the donation or purchases the property. The report consists of maps, a depiction of all existing human-made modifications, prominent vegetation, identification of flora and fauna, land use history, distinct natural features and photographs. The report is used to set a standard for measurement and annual monitoring to ensure that the natural features of the land are not disturbed in the future.

Our trust is very fortunate to have Simon Lunn, a recently retired senior Parks Canada biologist, who volunteers his time to help with the preparation of Baseline Documentation Reports. If any member would like to work with Simon in the preparation of these reports, please contact Sharon at the Rideau Waterway Land Trust office at 613-284-2010.

## Our Thanks to the Following Individuals and Businesses who have generously supported the Rideau Waterway Land Trust since January 1st, 2004

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

## Membership Renewal Time

As long term supporters of the Rideau Waterway Land Trust, many of you have taken an active role in the successes that the trust has enjoyed since being established in 1996. Whether it be joining with your neighbours at the Corn Roast or Annual Dinner or supporting the Land Acquisition Program, your continued membership is important. Without an active membership, a community-based land trust would not be successful.

With 12 properties now preserved for the enjoyment of all, the Rideau Waterway Land Trust is just beginning. We need your continued support to ensure the trust remains a successful and vibrant part of your community.

Please take a few minutes to complete the enclosed membership card and return it to our office. A Canadian tax receipt will be issued for all membership fees.



## Volunteering Can Be Fun and Rewarding

The Rideau Waterway Land Trust welcomes volunteers who would like to share their time to assist us at the Corn Roast 2005. This one day event requires a legion of volunteers.

*If you would like to join the fun and help out your land trust, please contact Sharon at 613-284-2010, evenings at 613-359-6133 or email [sharonw@rwlt.org](mailto:sharonw@rwlt.org)*



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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.

Charitable Registration # 89233-6348-RR0001



The Rideau Waterway Land Trust gratefully acknowledges the financial support of the Ontario Trillium Foundation, an agency of the Ministry of Culture, which receives annually \$100 million in government funding generated through Ontario's charity casino initiative.