PRESERVING SPECIAL PLACES IN OUR COMMUNITY

WWW.RWLT.ORG

RIDEAU WATERWAY LAND TRUST - EST. 1996

2013

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

RWLT Annual Dinner & Benefit Auction

Acquiring Land is Costly

Long Time RWLT Supporter Passes Away

Bobolink Habitat

Community Support is Growing

2012 Donors List

RWLT Board Members

President

Doug Lewis

Secretary

Simon Lunn

Directors

Neal Ritchie Hunter McGill Doug Stewart Elaine Watters

Operations Officer

Dave Walker



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

www.rwlt.org

2013 RWLT Annual Dinner and Benefit Auction

Everyone set aside the evening of May 16th for the RWLT Annual Dinner and Benefit Auction. This year's event will be held at Code's Mill on the Park in Perth.

We are pleased to have as our guest speaker the Hon. Bob Rae, the interim leader of the Liberal Party of Canada, summer resident of Big Rideau Lake and, with his wife Arlene Pearly Rae, longtime supporters of the RWLT. Not only is Bob an acclaimed speaker with respected insights into the current affairs of Canada, but he speaks with great passion about the possibilities that present themselves when neighbours work with neighbours to preserve important places in their communities for the benefit of all.

The RWLT has held an Annual Dinner since 2002 and it has become an important event. Not only does it provide an opportunity for the organization to hear from its members



RWLT Honorary Chair - Bob Rae

and supporters but it also raises important funds that enable the RWLT to continue its programs in your community. This year we are delighted that the Johnson Investment Group from CIBC Wood Gundy has returned as our presenting sponsor. They will be joined by other business sponsors from the Kingston and Perth areas.

New this year we have tables of 8 available as well as individual tickets. We have a number of tables already spoken for but several are still available. If you would like to put together a table of friends and neighbours, please contact Dave Walker at davew@rwlt.org or 613-284-2010. The price for a table of 8 is \$400. The menu will include your choice of Prime Rib, Grilled Salmon or Vegetarian Cannelloni prepared by the some of the best chefs in the area.

We will be mailing invitations to all of our supporters the first part of April inviting them to purchase individual tickets to this much anticipated event.

We look forward to a full house!



Acquiring Land is Costly

The RWLT is a registered charity and has also adopted the Canadian Land Trust Standards and Practices. These two commitments come with responsibilities and costs.

This was highlighted with the recent acquisition of Sugarbush Island. Some of the funds required were provided by the Federal Government and one of their requirements was that the project be carried out under the guidelines found in the Canadian Land Trust Standards and Practices and they required an audit to be carried out regarding the acquisition of the property. Although the purchase price for the project was \$100,000, the total cost as shown by the audit was



\$174,800. This did not include the costs of developing the trails which were done as a separate project. But it did include the obvious costs of legal, survey and the severance and surveying costs associated with establishing the Right of Way. In addition there was the requirement that 15% of the purchase price be raised and placed in an Endowment Fund to help offset future costs of managing the property, costs associated with signage, preparing land management plans, completing the applications to gain property tax exception for the lands and a requirement to raise funds to help pay the costs of running the organization itself and meeting the obligations of operating a charity in Canada.

Even when land was donated to the RWLT, the Board of Directors always recognized the many additional costs involved with acquiring the lands, but this was the first time that an outside auditor has identified all the costs. In recent years donors of land have often contributed funds to help with these costs but often additional funds have to be raised.

The RWLT has many opportunities to acquire additional properties, often landowners are willing to donate these lands and sometimes the RWLT will consider purchasing key properties, but the requirement to raise the additional acquisition funds places a restraint on the RWLT and it is not able to accept title to all the properties offered.

If you feel you would like to make a meaningful gift to the Trust to enable more of these properties to be preserved by the Trust please contact Dave Walker at davew@rwlt.org or 613-284-2010.

Long Time RWLT Supporter Passes Away

The RWLT was saddened to hear that Ms. Elizabeth Edwards passed away in late February. Many of you will recognize Ms. Edwards as a life-long summer resident of Big Rideau Lake. Ms. Edwards was passionate in her belief that wildlife habitat should be preserved in perpetuity. Before her death she donated a conservation easement on Edwards Wetlands and her property at Sherwood's Bay to the RWLT. These two properties will be preserved in perpetuity by the RWLT.

On behalf of the RWLT and its supporters we would like to express our condolences to Ms. Edwards' family.



Bobolink Habitat

Late last fall and over the winter the RWLT partnered with the Regional Group, CRT Developments and Golfview Lands Development Inc, and staff from the Ministry of Natural Resources to provide long term

preservation of bobolink habitat.

Over the past few decades the occurrences of bobolinks have become threatened in Ontario. Due to the decline of their grassland habitat these once plentiful songbirds are becoming a memory for many. With the financial support of these three developers, the RWLT has been able to develop a management plan that will lead to the rehabilitation and long term preservation of bobolink habitat on the Carter – Phillips Nature Reserve lands in Montague Township. This has been a great example of businesses within the community working with the RWLT to ensure



that lands donated by RWLT supporters are stewarded to preserve wildlife habitat.

The RWLT is looking forward to working with other organizations, businesses and land donors to enable the long term preservation of Species at Risk habitat.

Community Support is Growing

The RWLT is enjoying growing support from the community. With government cutbacks over the last several years, local land conservation has become even more dependent on community support. Businesses, organizations and community leaders have stepped forward and are joining with individuals to help preserve special places in your community. Local businesses are beginning to support initiatives in the communities where their employees live and work. Although support from individuals and families will always be the backbone of community land trusts, the added support from local businesses and organizations for the RWLT programs and projects is greatly appreciated.

Our Supporting Organizations:

Barclay Funeral Home
Brent Burns
Choose the Blues Productions
Contrary Club (1927)
George Bracken Limited
Hungry - Rosal Cottager's Assoc.
Hurst Marina

Jane Monaghan
Johnson Investment Group - CIBC
Wood Gundy
Lafarge North America
Leslie M Higginson Surveying Ltd.
Nature Conservancy of Canada
TD Friends of the Environment

The Cove Country Inn
The Davies Charitable Foundation
The Ontario Trillium Foundation
The Regional Group
Town of Smiths Falls
Township of Rideau Lakes

Thanks to the following Individuals and Businesses for their support from January 1st - December 31, 2012

Circle of Leadership

Harry Burgstaller Karen Cooper Peter Gillespie Peter Hannah & Daphne Buckley Doug & Wendy Lewis Janice Ley & Eric Usherwood Bryce & Nancy Walker Vince & Elaine Watters

\$500 and up

George Anderson David Bearman & Jennifer Trant **Bob Clinton** Don Clinton Stephen Clinton Kathryn Clinton James Clinton Molly Ellard Donald Ferguson Bill Gibbons Dr. Diana M. Grinnell Joe & Mary Lou Hamilton James Heseltine Hunter McGill Cameron & Diana McRae Arlene Pearly Rae & Bob Rae Dukke Van Der Werf R.W. Van Niel Michelle Venance Dave & Sharon Walker Joan Wright

\$250 - \$499

David & Betty Adlam Jim & Judy Barton William Depew Richard & Doreen Harley David Honeywell Richard Hughson Simon & Carol Lunn Fred MacFarland George MacFarlane Peter Milliken John O'Neill Peter H Skelton

Pam & John Waddington Michael Walker Jasper & Jenny Wall Jim Whitehead Karen & Stephen Whitehead

up to \$249

Kenneth & Mary Baer Shane Battersby D.J. & Cynthia Battle Paul Gammon & Holly Bickerton George & Dini Blundell Arend Bonen Patricia Bonneau George & Margaret Bracken T. Bradbrooke Smith Nancy P. Bredbeck Willard & Helen Breon Kathleen Breznik Eileen Bruce David & Susan Burke Colin R. Burnett James Campbell Shirley Carlson Katherine Cartwright Christopher K. Chapler Sterling Chapman Krystyna Chelminska Dianne Clipsham Katharine Collins Jack & Bea Cook Avery & Terry Cox C. Jane Craig **Edmund Davis** Keith Davis Alan Davison Ron & Marlene Dobson Bruce & Gail Drysdale Doug & Rosemary Duff Dennis & Joan Duncan Jo-Anne & John Eady Walt & Michele Ebaugh Don & Betty Ecobichon Evelyn & Gene Edwards Philip & Dorothy Evans Noreen Evans

David W.B. Fair

Rhona & Hugh Gale Lindsay & Karen Geoffrey Hazel Gilfillen Deborrah Gray Carl & Elizabeth Hamacher William Hamilton John Hamilton William Hamilton John Harwood Bruce & Jan Haskin James Hickman Cynthia Holz & William Grouchy John Hoos Richard Hope-Simpson Mary Ruth & Richard Horner Robert & Marilyn Horwood Robert & Jane Hough Barbara Humphreys Fred Hunter Cindy-Lou & Graham Hyde The Isard - Yagoda Family Sandra Conrad & Bill Jackson Doug & Linda Jarvis Edward Jezak Neil Johnstone Murray & Louise Kane Robert King Jaromir Kouba Ronald Labonte Judith Lilley David and Mary Lillicrap Tim Lyon Paul MacKenzie Jean & Michael Macpherson Douglas & Karen Mahoney Paul Manley John & Catherine Mark Howard & Irene Martin Debra Maxwell David Mc Nicoll & Janice Dowling Barry & Shannon McCorquodale Earl and Linda McFadden Dan & Nancy McIntyre Daniel McMahon Bill Melnichuk

Erin Merry & Eric Tremblay Anne Turnbull Meikle Turner Evert Vanbolhuis Muriel Walker Alan D. Walker Peter Walker Don Warren Mary Anna Watters Alex Watters Ruth Webber Margaret Wicklum Arlene E Gregory Wilkins Terry & Mary Willing David & Denice Willis Jeffrey & Shirley Wimperis Sheila Menard & Susan Irving Donald Witman Diana Wright

Doug Milne

Martin Moir

Jane Monaghan

Linda Nuttall &

Mark Chojnacki

Guy Oram

Ernie Perrin

Frank Phelan

Gordon Price

Paula Way Quong

Douglas Radford

Allen Robinson

W. Kirby Rowe

David Sansom

Christine Small

Klaus Stegemann

Shirley Soden

Doug Stewart

Tim Sugrue

Hubert Summers

Frank S. Symons

N. John Telgmann

Dave Thomson

Susan & Jim Thomson

William & Lee Tootill

Judith Sutcliffe

R. E. Taylor

D. Murray Randall

David & Carolyn Seburn

Kenneth & Janet Stevens

Wendy & Earl Stokes

Ed and Gail Moorhead

John & Janet Finlayson **David Forkes** Richard & Jean Van Loon If your name is missing or misspelled, please accept our apologies and let us know so we can update our records. Rideau Waterway Preserving special places in our community

William & Sandie Mills Gerard & Mary Wyatt Harry & Kathryn Zink 1 Jasper Avenue, Smiths Falls, ON K7A 4B5 Tel: 613-284-2010 Fax: 613-284-8093 Email: davew@rwlt.org Website: www.rwlt.org 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.

Grant Miller