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CHARLOTTE LAND TRUST  
P.O. Box 43, Charlotte, VT 05445

Charlotte Resident

# CHARLOTTE LAND TRUST

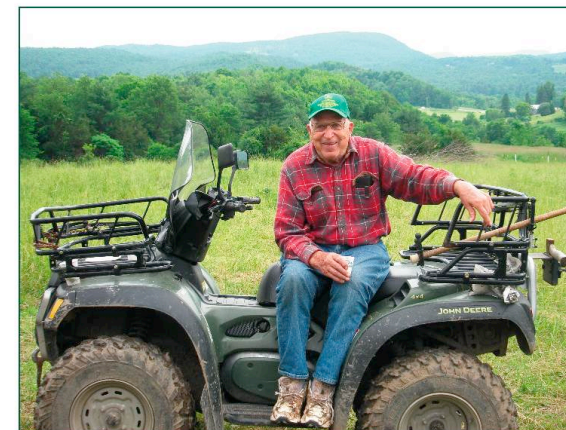


ESTABLISHED 1986

## REPORT TO OUR NEIGHBORS

JANUARY 2009 TO MARCH 2010

Helping to Protect and Preserve the  
Rural, Agricultural Landscape  
of Charlotte



Art Burleigh, together with his family, conserved their 196-acre farm on Spear Street in 2009.

## INTRODUCTION FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT

What word best describes the work of the Charlotte Land Trust in the year since our last annual report? I think "partnership" overwhelmingly defines our experiences this past year. As you will read in the following descriptions of this past year's activities, CLT works collaboratively with numerous conservation organizations.

Conservation projects can be complex undertakings and each project brings new twists to the process. Working with other organizations allows us to be involved with larger and more complex projects. While we are always willing to tackle projects on our own, and continue to do so, our partnerships have brought wonderful results and a great deal of satisfaction.

CLT is also fortunate to work in partnership with the Town of Charlotte and its citizens. The goal of protecting the wonderful resources of this town is woven into many aspects of our Town Plan, the work of citizen committees and in townspeople's support for the Conservation Fund. CLT is fortunate to be a part of this mix and our work is stronger for it.

Partnership also describes the way we view our relationship with our supporters. Without the many of you who have supported CLT and our work, there would be none of the good news we have to report. We value our supporters' commitment to land conservation and we value our partnership with you.

**Frances Foster**  
CLT President

## 2009 PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS: CONSERVATION AND OUTREACH

Early summer of 2009 was kicked off with a celebration of the Burleigh project which had closed earlier in the year. This project was initiated by the Lewis Creek Association and ultimately included the Charlotte Land Trust, the Nature Conservancy and Vermont Land Trust. Through the generosity of the Burleigh family and numerous donors, as well as the work of the conservation groups, the project resulted in a conservation easement on 73 acres of farmland to the Vermont Land Trust and the sale of 123 acres of forestland to the Nature Conservancy, with public access to this section.

During the later part of 2009, CLT was pleased to assist the Nature Conservancy and the Vermont Land Trust with the final phase of the Raven Ridge project which will culminate in spring of 2010 with the creation of a 365-acre natural area preserve in Charlotte, Monkton and Hinesburg. The preserve will be open to public access. In addition to permanently protecting significant wildlife habitat and natural features, the preserve will provide wonderful trails, beautiful views of the lake, Adirondacks and Champlain Valley and educational opportunities for study of the site resources. The final fundraising push resulted in a strong response from Charlotters and others interested in the project. In these tough economic times, the commitment of Charlotters to the Raven Ridge project and to conservation in general is truly inspiring.



Charlotte Land Trust Board of Directors (l to r): Edd Merritt, Marty Illick, Frances Foster, Mary Volk, Kate Lampton, Phyllis Kroll, Robert Bloch, Tim Sampson, Jane Lawlis. Missing: Dave Quickel, Laura Crandall.

Late in 2009, Charles and Gwen Allmon donated 69 acres adjacent to the north slope of Mount Philo State Park to the State of Vermont. This parcel has sweeping views of the valley, Lake Champlain and mountains and will be a significant addition to one of Vermont's most popular state parks. Although CLT was not involved with the final closing, we began conversations about conservation with the Allmons a number of years ago and explored several options for protecting the property. We are very pleased and grateful to the Allmons for permanently protecting this land and providing such a wonderful gift to all who enjoy Mount Philo.

As these projects illustrate, CLT works not only on our own, but also in partnership with many organizations. This enables us to leverage a small, understaffed land trust's efforts into significant and frequently complex projects. We are committed to exploring project partnerships and other tools that make us more effective since that also provides good value for our donors' contributions.

Outreach and education have always been important parts of our mission. In addition to frequent and ongoing discussions with landowners about conservation options for their land we also provide information to Charlotters

about conservation and our work. In 2009 we launched our first web site at [www.CharlotteLandTrust.org](http://www.CharlotteLandTrust.org). Many thanks to Board members Jane Lawlis and Mary Volk for their work to develop and maintain the site. Please check it out!

We once again participated in the Charlotte Town Party with our booth. We prepared a list of local agricultural products for sale in Charlotte, with contact information on the vendors. The interesting diversity of products grown and produced in Charlotte is one more testimony to the important role of agriculture in our town and the importance of preserving it for years to come.

## ORGANIZATION

At the end of 2009 our longest serving board member, Betty Ann Lockhart, retired. Betty Ann has been a stalwart and tireless supporter of CLT and conservation in Charlotte. We can't thank her enough for her years of membership on the CLT board. Laura Crandall joined the board in January 2010 and brings a wide range of expertise (including experience as a farmer) to CLT. We look forward to working with her.



A broad view of the Champlain Valley as seen from Raven Ridge in East Charlotte.

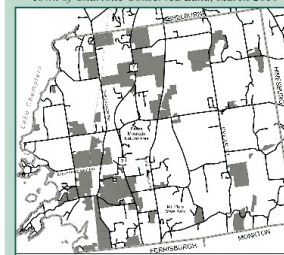
## DEDICATION

Art Burleigh was a longtime farmer in Charlotte and an active member of our community. Art passed away March 7, 2010, at the age of 90. His farm on Spear Street was conserved in 2009 and continues to be farmed by his son, Gary, and daughter, Sheila. Art cared deeply for his farm and was pleased to know that the open fields and woodlands would remain that way in the years to come. In honor and appreciation of his generosity and vision, as well as his stewardship of his land for many years, the board of the Charlotte Land Trust dedicates this year's annual report to Art.

## 2009 INCOME AND EXPENSES

<b>INCOME</b>			
Contributions:			
Unrestricted Donations		\$24,244	
Burleigh Farm & Forest Project		1,300	
Interest and dividends		3,217	
Annual Town contribution		5,000	
<b>Total income</b>		<b>\$33,761</b>	
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Burleigh Farm & Forest		\$132,450	
Other Conservation Projects		1,412	
Outreach		3,742	
Program Subtotal	96%	137,604	
Fundraising	1%	1,073	
Administration	3%	4,363	
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$143,404</b>	
Assets 1/1/2009		\$335,726	
Assets 12/31/2009		\$226,447	

Town of Charlotte Conserved Land, March 2010



Easements with the Vermont Land Trust, Charlotte Land Trust, Lake Champlain Land Trust and the Nature Conservancy

Source: CCRP Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission

**YES!** I will help preserve the natural and rural beauty of Charlotte by making a tax-deductible contribution to the Charlotte Land Trust at the following level:

- ☐ Benefactor \$2,500    ☐ Friend \$100  
☐ Supporter \$1,000    ☐ Contributor \$50  
☐ Sustaining \$500    ☐ Other \$\_\_\_\_\_

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☐ Please contact me to discuss: conservation of my land, donating development rights, or other planned giving opportunities.

☐ I would like my gift to remain anonymous.