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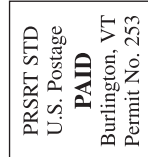
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Frances Foster
Marty Illick
Kate Lampton
Jane Lawlis
Lindsay Longe
Edd Merritt
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Jessie Price
Mary Volk
David Watts

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CHARLOTTE LAND TRUST

P.O. Box 43, Charlotte, VT 05445

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ESTABLISHED 1986

REPORT TO OUR NEIGHBORS JANUARY 2014 TO MARCH 2015

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



Aerial view of Williams Woods and adjoining conserved parcels.

LETTER FROM THE BOARD

The Charlotte Land Trust Board of Directors is pleased to share this summary of our activities in 2014. All of us on the board find conservation work in Charlotte to be very gratifying, in large part because it feels like a true partnership with our fellow Charlotters. Conservation is strongly supported in the Town Plan, through the continued support for the Charlotte Conservation Fund and in the enthusiasm that is so often evident for preserving Charlotte's best features. We like to remind our fellow Charlotters (and those who visit) to look out your windows—see what, working together, we've all helped create as a legacy. It's truly inspiring for us and we are grateful for your support.

The Charlotte Land Trust Board of Directors

CONSERVATION

A great mix of projects is actively underway, including agricultural land, forest-land and the potential for some significant public access. These projects are in several different sections of town, consistent with our goal to promote a diversity of location as well as land type in the portfolio of conserved parcels. Projects can sometimes come together quickly, but often take longer to ensure that conservation goals and landowner needs are thoroughly met. Although there was no closing on an easement in 2014, we have been very busy with several exciting projects.

Once a conservation easement is completed, the long-term work for a land trust is just beginning. Stewardship—the process of ensuring that the terms of an easement are met—is a key part of conservation. Our stewardship committee has been working to fine-tune our yearly easement reviews, recordkeeping and improved marking of easements, including the new easement boundary markers pictured inside this report. An important part of their work is to maintain communications with owners of conserved land.



Charlotte Land Trust 2015 Board L to R: Jane Lawlis, Kate Lampton, David Pill, Frances Foster, David Watts, Edd Merritt, Mary Volk, Laura Crandall. Missing: Marty Illick, Lindsay Longe, Jessie Price.

OUTREACH

Early in 2014 we held the last in a series of popular photography workshops that used conserved lands as its setting. Many thanks to the landowners who allowed us to access their land for the workshops. In late summer we co-sponsored, with the Charlotte Historical Society, a very well-attended presentation on the history of Mount Philo with speaker Judy Chaves. In recognition of the importance of Mount Philo and its viewshed, CLT has long had a goal to conserve land that is key to those views.

CLT was once again a participant at the Charlotte Town Party. This is always one of our favorite outreach events of the year. We enjoy meeting many of you and hearing your opinions and ideas. If you haven't stopped by our table before, please do so this summer. We'd enjoy meeting you.

ORGANIZATION

CLT continues to operate as a group of volunteers and, for another year in 2014, was without a board chair. An unusual way to run things? Perhaps, but it has worked very well, largely because of the distribution of talents on the board and a very clear set of goals, a strong strategic plan and organizational objectives. A core group rotates as meeting chair every two months and we work from a schedule of tasks, with subcommittees focused on specific parts of our work.

CLT has an Organizational Assessment Action Plan, created with the assistance of a land trust professional, that guides us in making ongoing improvements to all aspects of the land trust's work. The Action Plan serves as a focus and as a checkpoint for us and ensures that we steward not only our conservation work, but also the efficient and wise use of donations and grants that support our work.

In 2014, Tim King and Larry Sommers left the CLT board. We very much appreciate the time and thoughtful energy they brought to the board. Lindsay Longe joined the board in 2014 and we look forward to adding her expertise and insight to our group.



Haying on conserved land off Mt. Philo Road.

THE CHARLOTTE CONSERVATION FUND

The Charlotte Conservation Fund has been central to the success of land preservation in Charlotte for many years. Established in 1996, the Fund has helped conserve 1,687 acres. The \$1,397,951 expended from the Fund has leveraged \$6,653,189 of grant money from other sources. The Conservation Fund is a sound investment in preserving Charlotte's rural landscape.

The Fund will once again be up for renewal at Town Meeting in 2016. It's not too early to think about what the Fund has done for our town and what a good value it has been. The CLT board encourages you to support renewal of the Fund next Town Meeting Day.



New easement boundary marker on conserved property.

2014 INCOME AND EXPENSES

INCOME

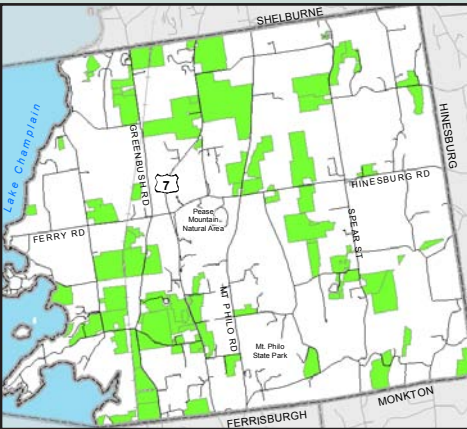
Contributions	
Unrestricted	\$34,531
Nichols and Hinsdale Farm Projects	2,500
Memorial Gifts	25
Stewardship Donation	5,000
Interest and Dividends	695
Annual Town Contribution	4,662
Total Income	\$47,413

EXPENSES

Burrill Easement	\$1,681
Outreach	2,354
Stewardship	263
Program Subtotal	\$4,298
Fundraising	1,640
Administration	2,617
Total Expenses	\$8,555
Total Assets 1/1/2014	\$222,801
Total Assets 12/31/2014*	261,660
*Includes Stewardship Fund	\$99,446

SPECIAL THANKS:
Logo: Family of Rockwell Kent
Layout: Janice Heilmann
PHOTO CREDITS:
Cover: Rose Paul, The Nature Conservancy
Laura Crandall
Frances Foster

Town of Charlotte Conserved Land, March 2015



Easements with the Vermont Land Trust, Charlotte Land Trust, Lake Champlain Land Trust and the Nature Conservancy. Source: 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 \$2500
- ☐ Friend \$100
- ☐ Supporter \$1000
- ☐ Contributor \$50
- ☐ Sustaining \$500
- ☐ Other \$_____

Please provide the following information and mail, along with your check, to Charlotte Land Trust, P.O. Box 43, Charlotte, VT 05445.

Name

Street Address

Phone

E-mail

- ☐ 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.
- Info@CharlotteLandTrust.org