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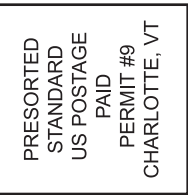
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CHARLOTTE LAND TRUST

P.O. Box 43, Charlotte, VT 05445



Charlotte Resident

CHARLOTTE LAND TRUST



ESTABLISHED 1986

REPORT TO OUR NEIGHBORS

JANUARY 2008 TO MARCH 2009

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



Hay bales on recently conserved Burleigh Family Farm



INTRODUCTION FROM  
THE BOARD PRESIDENT

In 2008, forty acres of farmland were conserved forever at the western base of Mt. Philo, protecting the scenic view from this popular overlook. Coupled with the conservation of the Burleigh Farm in 2009—one of the most significant conservation successes in our organization's recent history—made this a productive year for the Charlotte Land Trust and for land conservation.

Each additional conserved acre reinforces our goal of preserving the special landscape that is Charlotte. Our lives are enhanced by the connection to nature afforded us by living in this beautiful town. We may not all get the opportunity to go outside and enjoy it every day, but many of us live here because of the Town's spectacular natural features.

The Charlotte Land Trust works to preserve our landscape and the character of Charlotte for future generations. For over 20 years, we have helped save significant places to ski, walk, listen to the birds, or watch frogs hatch in a vernal pool. The Land Trust has also helped to conserve significant blocks of farmland where cows graze, farmers grow fruit and vegetables and townspeople can enjoy a shimmering sunset over an open meadow with the mountains beyond.

All of us on the Board volunteer for the Land Trust because it helps save what we love about this town—our open land. I thank the members of the Board for their tireless efforts and amazing energy.

Our successes would not be possible without you. Thank you, Charlotte residents and landowners, for your support of our work!

Frances Foster  
Board President



*The 2009 Charlotte Land Trust Board of Directors (left to right):  
Marty Illick, Dave Quickel, Phyllis Kroll, Tim Sampson,  
Frances Foster, Edd Merritt, Kate Lampton, Robert Bloch,  
Mary Volk, Jane Lawlis, Betty Ann Lockhart.*

2008 PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS:  
CONSERVATION AND OUTREACH

Early in February last year CLT purchased the development rights on the beautiful 40-acre field at the base of Mt. Philo State Park. We had long identified this field as a valuable area to keep open because of its prominent location in the viewshed to the west of the park. This property was conserved with a contribution of \$70,000 from the Town Conservation Fund and an additional \$80,000 from CLT. Thank you again to the many Friends who helped provide the financial support to allow us to conserve this scenic and agricultural asset.

The members of the Board of CLT were busy in 2008, discussing other potential projects with owners of significant farmland, wildlife habitat and lakeshore. When we review a property, we discuss such variables as funding feasibility, soil types, wildlife habitat, natural resources on the land and proximity to other conserved parcels. We also explore whether owners are interested in taking tax deductions by donating the development rights on their land or if they are hoping to sell those rights.

The CLT Board is composed of people with a variety of skills and knowledge. Many of us attend

workshops and conferences to increase our knowledge base. We interface with other conservation groups, both local and national, in order to remain current on land conservation practices. In addition, our "jobs" on the Board include keeping accurate records, visiting properties that have been conserved to assure that stewardship obligations are met, providing education about the conservation process and raising funds to support our work.

ANNUAL MEETING

Our Annual Meeting on November 19 at the Senior Center was open to all and featured three components tied together by the theme, "Land Conservation in Charlotte: It's More Than Just a Pretty Picture!" Board member, Kate Lampton, kicked off the evening with a nuts-and-bolts presentation on how conservation works. Then, two local farmers who work on conserved farmland—Robert Mack, who has a large dairy and cropping operation with 425 cows and calves, and Dave Quickel of Stony Loam Farm, a Community Supported Agriculture operation providing vegetables and flowers to 160 member families—gave the audience a deeper understanding of their farms which contribute to the open and working landscape we value in Charlotte.

The highlight of the evening was Board member Mary Volk's slide show of stunning photographs of conserved land from agricultural fields to lakeshore vistas, as well as areas noted for wildlife habitat. Many people donated photographs for this presentation but we want to particularly thank Robin Reid for her many contributions. The slide show was riveting and inspirational and we plan to share it again at some future date.

2009 NEWS

We are excited by the conservation this past February of the 200-acre Burleigh Farm and Forest off Spear Street. The Burleigh's 127-acre forest, wetland and Lewis Creek tributary were purchased by The Nature Conservancy, and the remaining farm land was protected by the Vermont Land Trust.

This project was made possible through the collaborative efforts of these two organizations and the Charlotte Land Trust and Lewis Creek Association. Three years of perseverance were rewarded in generous funding and support from the State of Vermont Housing and Conservation Board and the Town of Charlotte. Other funders included the Charlotte Land Trust, Vermont's Agency of Natural Resources Clean and Clear Program, Lewis Creek Association, area foundations and many supportive community members. CLT played a vital role in helping to achieve the project's fundraising goals and is forever grateful for the wonderful generosity of all of its donors who care so deeply about protecting the very special places of Charlotte.



*View looking west from Mt. Philo with recently conserved field in foreground.*

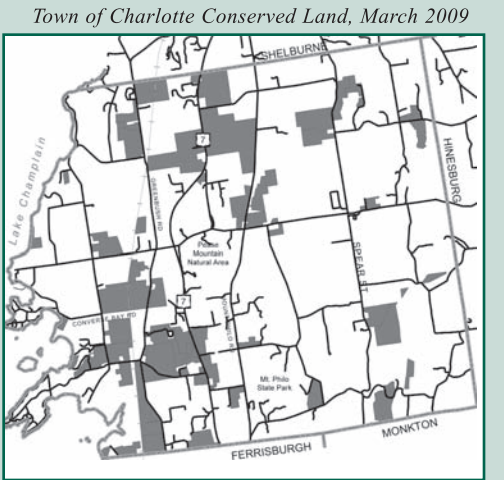
We have been working hard on our new web site. Please look for it online in the next month at [www.CharlotteLandTrust.org](http://www.CharlotteLandTrust.org). The site will feature easements we hold, a brief history, current projects and will explain some basic land conservation techniques. We are very excited to get this up and running shortly.

2008 INCOME AND EXPENSES

<b>INCOME</b>	
Contributions:	
General fundraising	\$24,422
Mt. Philo Viewshed Project	22,500
Burleigh Farm & Forest Project	61,150
Major Conservation Gift	50,000
Interest and dividends	5,356
Annual town contribution	<u>8,590</u>
<b>Total income</b>	<b>\$172,018</b>

<b>EXPENSES</b>	
Mt. Philo Viewshed	\$81,318
Burleigh Farm & Forest	<u>6,563</u>
Conservation subtotal	93% 87,881
Outreach	3% 2,858
Fundraising	1% 1,122
Administration	3% <u>2,249</u>
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>\$94,110</b>

Assets	1/1/2008	\$257,818
Assets	12/31/2008	<b>\$335,726*</b>
*(\$132,450 committed for future Burleigh Farm & Forest Project that closed 2/09)		



*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:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor \$2,500 | <input type="checkbox"/> Friend \$100     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Supporter \$1,000  | <input type="checkbox"/> Contributor \$50 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining \$500   | <input type="checkbox"/> Other \$_____    |

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☐ I would like my gift to remain anonymous.