

# LYME LAND TRUST BULLETIN

May 1988

The Lyme Land Conservation Trust

Vol. II No. 2

Red-Shouldered Hawk, a raptor which breeds in Lyme—  
photographed by Jim Morgan

## **PRESIDENT'S LETTER**

Dear Neighbors,

First of all let me urge you to attend our annual meeting on June 8, as described in the adjoining article.

As this issue goes to press we have at long last received official notification that the documents effecting the exchange of a parcel of Land Trust property abutting the Nehantic State Forest for the Lower Joshua Pond have been executed by Commissioner Carothers of the Department of Environmental Protection and that the transaction is finally completed. Given the history of this negotiation we should probably not announce it publicly until the documents are in hand (you may recall our first announcement on June 12, 1986), but we will take a chance a second time.

Needless to say, this has been a frustrating transaction, commencing with Chan Eno's letter of August 9, 1982 to Commissioner Pac protesting the decision not to repair the dam and suggesting that it be deeded to the Town of Lyme. As early as December 24, 1985 there was complete agreement with the D.E.P. as to the exchange. Two and a half years later all appears to be finally in order. Along the way many people were involved, including Arthur Howe, Fritz Gahagan, Jim Thach and Jack Tiffany, to name a few. Our sincere thanks to all of you, named and unnamed.

Where to from here? A number of things can be done to enhance this wonderful property. Much will depend on the kind of support, financial and otherwise, that we receive.

(Continued next page)



## **BIRDS THAT BREED IN LYME** To be subject of Annual Meeting talk

On June 8th, at 8 PM the Lyme Land Trust will hold its annual meeting at the Lyme Consolidated School. This year's gathering, open to all, will hear an illustrated talk by Clay Taylor, distinguished naturalist and photographer. His subject, "Birds That Breed in Lyme", is a matter of interest and concern to all those who appreciate Lyme's natural beauties. Birds, as Roger Tory Peterson has pointed out, "are a sensitive indicator of the environment, a sort of ecological litmus paper." The scores of birds that breed in Lyme every year reflect Lyme's widely varied topography and in the long run reflect the health of our environment.

It may come as a surprise to some that the following diverse species breed here, among many others:

- Pileated Woodpecker
- Ovenbird
- Cerulean Warbler
- Green-backed Heron
- Wood Duck

- Red-tailed Hawk
- Barred Owl

The habits of these and many other species will be discussed by Mr. Taylor and illustrated with slides, using his superb photographs. He will be glad to answer questions on conservation measures needed to keep various species living in the area.

Mr. Taylor travels widely to address Audubon Society gatherings. He is a teacher-naturalist for the Meigs Point Nature Center in Madison, Ct., and he manages a hawk-banding station in Hammonasset State Park.

His photographs have been widely published. He has served as Regional Coordinator of the Breeding Birds Atlas which will be published by the Audubon Society late in 1988.

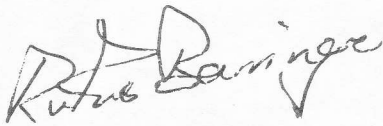
All Lyme residents are encouraged to come and hear this important talk. This is no admission charge.

(Continued from page 1)

The first step obviously will be to repair the dam. Preliminary inspections put this well within the range of our capabilities, and we will address this task as soon as the ink is dry on the documents. If nothing else, the pond at its old level will be more attractive to look at.

One suggestion has been received from Steve Gephard of the D.E.P. Fisheries Department to build a fish ladder to encourage the passage of shad and alewives, which once spawned there. We welcome other suggestions from any and all who may be interested.

Sincerely,



Rufus Barringer  
May 1, 1988

### LAND TRUST POSTS NEW SIGNS

The bright yellow sign shown below will soon be seen on Land Trust properties throughout Lyme. It will serve as a guide to anyone interested in enjoying these areas. It will also serve as a reminder that Land Trust property can only be fully enjoyed if it is kept in its natural state, free of litter and free of spoil from any neighboring development or activity.



#### The Lyme Land Trust Bulletin

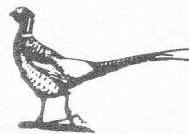
is published several times a year by the Lyme Land Conservation Trust, Inc. as a matter of interest to its membership and to the general public in Lyme. Its editorial board, to whom readers are invited to direct questions and suggestions, consists of Paul Harper, Virginia Bladen and John Friday.

### WHAT TO DO WITH A BABY BIRD

During nesting season people often find birds that cannot fly. However, it is very unlikely that these are either lost or abandoned.

Baby birds, whether tiny warblers or not-so-tiny hawks, usually leave the nest before they can fly. This is to some extent a safety measure since one predator, such as a raccoon or snake, cannot eat the whole nestful at one gulp when the babies are scattered about the woods. The parent birds fly from one to another feeding and calling to them.

If you see a "lost" baby, move it only if absolutely necessary to get it off a road. Put any loose cat or dog indoors. Back way up. Watch for some time, and you will probably have the pleasure of watching a baby bird being fed.



### NATIVE SHRUBS FOR LANDSCAPING

*Native Shrubs for Landscaping*, most recent in the series of publications by the Connecticut Arboretum, has been given to the Lyme Library by the Land Trust. This booklet is a real boon to those who want to enhance or create natural settings without using introduced species that so often are detrimental to indigenous plants.

Beautiful color photographs show both plant details and landscaping effects in this booklet. Growth characteristics and habitat requirements of over fifty shrubs are described. Basic tips are given on subjects such as pruning, mulching and fertilizing. Moreover, plants are also listed in categories such as shrubs for summer bloom, with wildlife value, for groundcover, for shaded sites or for autumn color.

A map that shows the location of all the shrubs described so that they can be seen in plantings at the Connecticut Arboretum is of particular interest to Lyme residents.

### PROPERTIES IN THE LYME LAND CONSERVATION TRUST

*Letters and numbers refer to locations on Map opposite.*

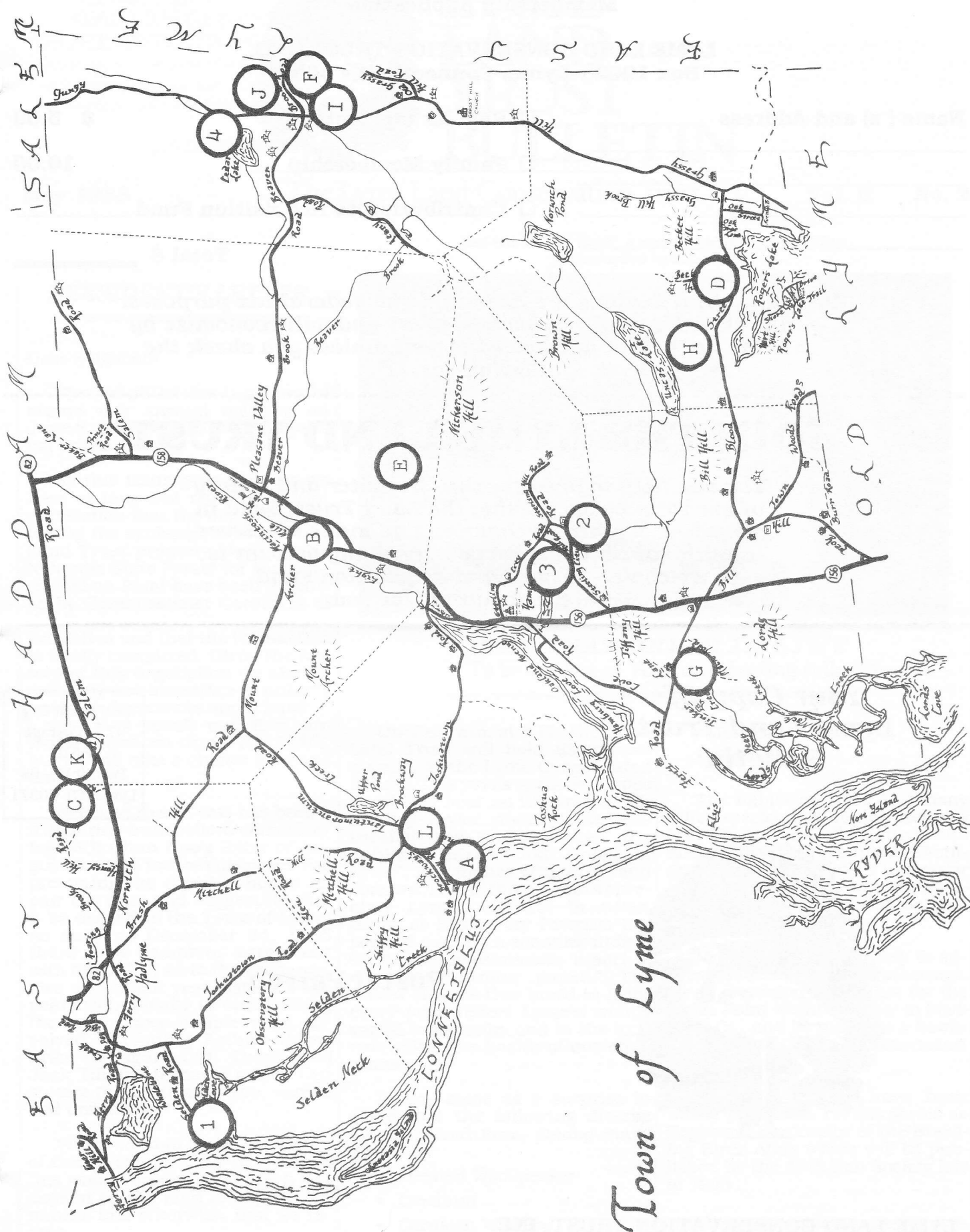
#### OWNED (226.69 Acres)

- A. Ram's Horn Creek Preserve: 7.96 Acres. Gift of Mr. & Mrs. William G. Moore and Mr. & Mrs. Frank B. Stephenson.
- B. Moulson's Pond Preserve: 19.64 Acres. Gift of Mrs. Orlean V. Curtin.
- C. Honey Hill Sanctuary: 28.75 Acres. Gift of The Nature Conservancy.
- D. Becket Hill Preserve: 1 Acre. Gift of Mr. & Mrs. Hans H. Rennhard and Mr. & Mrs. Duncan Sutphen.
- E. Slawson Tract: 42.3 Acres. Gift of Mrs. Marguerite Slawson.
- F. Beaver Brook Preserve I: 9.22 Acres. Gift of Library Associates Inc.
- G. Ely's Ferry Preserve: 1.9 Acres. Gift of Mr. & Mrs. John F. Pritchard.
- H. Augur Tract: 41 Acres. Gift of Uncas Lake Associates.
- I. Beaver Brook Preserve II: 61 Acres. Gift of Mr. William H. Beebe.
- J. Gungy Road Preserve: 0.9 Acre. Purchased from Mr. William H. Beebe.
- K. Klimek Tract: 9.32 Acres. Gift of Dr. Robert J. Klimek.
- L. Joshua Pond Preserve: 3.7 Acres. Acquired by land exchange from State of Connecticut.

#### EASEMENTS (30.4 Acres)

- 1. Selden's Creek: 16.9 Acres. Gift of Mr. Paul B. Selden.
- 2. Sterling Hill: 9.2 Acres. Gift of Mr. Andre W. G. Newburg.
- 3. Sterling City: 2 Acres. Gift of Sterling City Properties Inc.
- 4. Cedar Lake: 2.3 Acres. Gift of Mrs. Elmira S. Ingersoll and Mrs. M. S. Muhlhausen.

**Note:** Easements transferring rights of further subdivision to the Land Trust not included.



## Membership Application

LYME LAND CONSERVATION TRUST, INC.  
Box 1002 • Lyme, Connecticut • 06371

Name ( s) and Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

☐ Regular membership \$ 5.00

☐ Family Membership 10.00

☐ Contribution to Acquisition Fund \_\_\_\_\_

Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*Dues and contributions are deductible for federal tax purposes.  
We thank you warmly for your support and will economize by  
making no further acknowledgement, unless you check the  
following box. ☐*

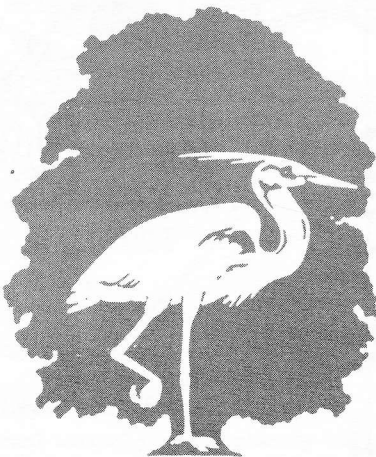


## JOIN THE LYME LAND TRUST

*You can help to preserve the character and beauty  
of our town by supporting the Land Trust. Send in  
your Membership Application and make whatever  
additional contribution you can - any amount is  
welcome - to our Land Acquisition Fund.  
Land we acquire is for you.*

**Your Copy Of  
Lyme Land Trust  
Bulletin**

Non Profit Org.  
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**Postal Patron**

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