

# LYME LAND TRUST BULLETIN

## The Lyme Land Conservation Trust

*Mission: To preserve the quality of life for Lyme residents by protecting the natural scenic and historic land and water resources of the town and by promoting public education and scientific study of these resources.*

Spring 2004

## The "Brow" of Mt. Archer Returns to the Town

*"The land we are dedicating today was saved thanks to the dedicated effort of the Lyme Land Trust, the Nature Conservancy, the State of Connecticut and support of the taxpayers of Lyme."*

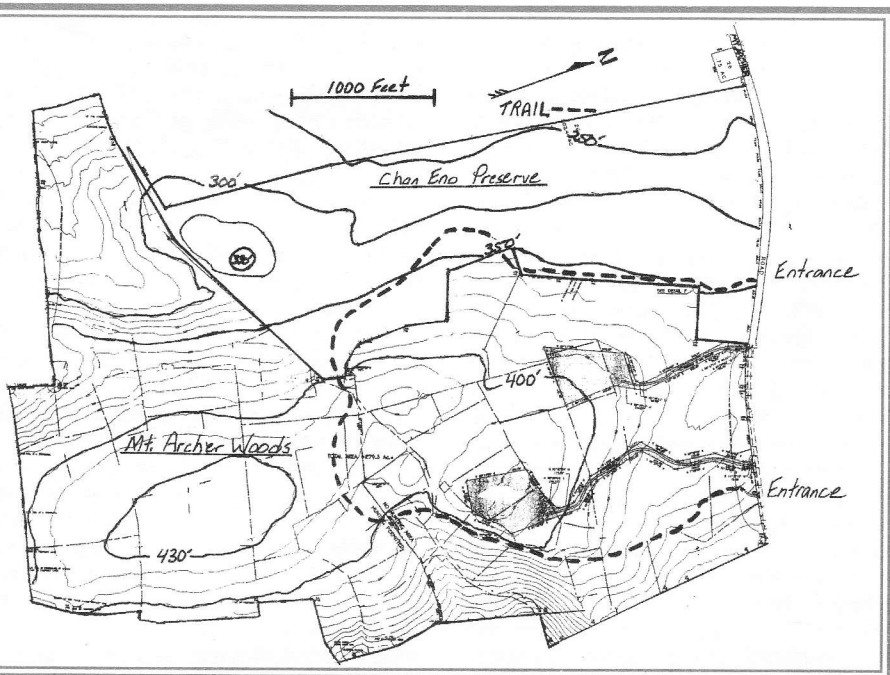


Bill Koch

*"Twenty years from now, long after this land is paid for, when my children drive by, they will see a forest, not a development. It probably cost the Town less to buy the land than to provide the services the 27 homes would have required."*



Jim Thach



The Town of Lyme, with financial contributions from the Lyme Land Conservation Trust, The Nature Conservancy and the State of Connecticut, acquired a significant parcel of open space when it purchased the Mt. Archer Farms property at the top of Mt. Archer in 2003. The parcel, which is adjacent to the Eno Preserve, is significant because of its size (250 acres) and because it connects several other open space parcels (see map on

pages 4-5).

Parker Lord provided the following bit of history and description of the property.

The town of Lyme was set off from Saybrook in 1665 and was incorporated two years later. In April 1669 this deed was recorded in the Lyme Land Records (Vol. 1, Page 97): "I, the said Chapato having had long acquaintance with William Lord my very loving friend, and having singular respects to him did move me to him rather

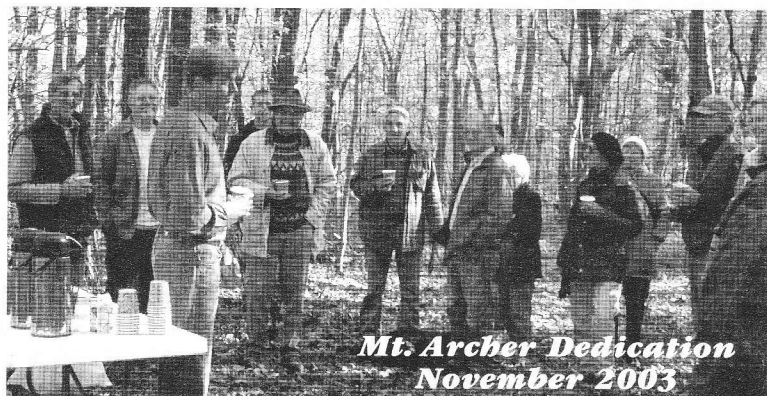
than to any other man to sell my land." This tract of land included Mt. Archer as well as the entire Eight Mile River and all its tributaries and the deed was signed by Chapato, his son Mashoran, and by Uncas, Chieftain of the Mohegans.

Upon his death, William Lord's estate passed to his sons who, in 1681, relinquished their interest in the property to the Town of Lyme. The land on Mt. Archer remained unpartitioned until 1702 at

*continued on page 7*

*This past winter a loop trail was roughed in (see map). It begins at the stone post on the south side of Mt. Archer Road, runs in a southerly direction to about the middle of the property, and then runs westerly until it joins a trail on the Eno Preserve. From there the trail runs northerly back to the the Eno Preserve entrance on Mt. Archer Road. This trail will be open in early spring 2004. Future trails planned include a crosscountry ski trail and a series of trails traversing the property.*

*Anyone interested in helping to clear trails may contact Parker Lord (526-1436) or Anthony Irving (434-1460). We will also need someone to volunteer to make trail signs.*



**Mt. Archer Dedication  
November 2003**

## Eightmile River Wild & Scenic Study Update

by Kevin Case

The Eightmile River Wild & Scenic Study Committee is close to completing a major phase of the Study: identifying and documenting the resource values that make the river system such a special place. At the same time the Committee is gearing up on the next phase of work: identifying locally-led strategies to ensure long-term protection of these outstanding resource values (see end of article).

The body of knowledge regarding the outstanding resource values of the watershed has expanded substantially during the study. Research has either been completed or is underway regarding potential vernal pool areas, botanical and natural community resources, biodiversity analysis, and stream flow. Following is a brief synopsis of the outstanding resource values the Committee is considering.

**Water Quality** — This resource is critically important for a healthy river ecosystem. Our study found the Eightmile River water quality is high, as indicated by the presence of healthy aquatic insects. The CT Department of Environmental Protection notes that the aquatic insects of the Eightmile River point to "exemplary ecological conditions for the Eightmile River and are representative of 'best attainable' water quality and aquatic life situations for reference stations across the state."

**Water Quantity** — The amount of water flowing in our rivers and streams is often called the "master variable" in protecting river resources. Without adequate flow a river can no longer function well. The combination of low levels of impervious surfaces, no regulated flows via dams/reservoir systems, and only one water withdrawal in the entire watershed all underscore a hydrologic system that is relatively intact and naturally functioning, a rare occurrence today.

**Rare and Diverse Species** — The

watershed is home to a host of unique plant species. Botanical field survey work funded by the Committee last summer re-confirmed two globally rare species and identified two other sites of possibly global significance due to the presence of globally rare natural communities. Also, 19 new plant species considered threatened, endangered, or of special concern were identified, including 11 species that are considered regionally rare in New England.

**Geology** — The point where present day North American and African continents broke apart goes through the Eightmile River Watershed. Thus, the geology in the southern half of the Eightmile River Watershed is the same as that seen in Morocco, a fairly unique situation in Connecticut.

**River Ecosystem Quality** — The Eightmile River Watershed system as a whole is a rare example of an intact, naturally functioning watershed system. When considering all the resource values discussed above coupled with a watershed that has large unfragmented forest blocks, 85% forest cover, ample indicators of high habitat value from a wide variety of interior nesting birds to submerged aquatic vegetation and freshwater mussels, it is clear the system is functioning at a high level not typically found in today's watersheds.

**Archaeology** — There are already a number of exceptional historic and pre-historic sites in the Eightmile River Watershed that have been recognized and placed on the National Register of Historic Places. In addition, the areas bordering the River have high potential for intact archaeological resources and the proximity of the Eightmile Watershed to coastal resources suggests the opportunity for significant archaeological values.

Visit [www.eightmileriver.org](http://www.eightmileriver.org) to learn more or contact Project Manager Kevin Case (860)738-1092 or Study Committee Chair Anthony Irving at (860)434-2390.

## Estate Planning

In the normal course of a year, we depend on the generous annual, tax-deductible contributions from local residents to acquire land and then to manage it. Membership dues, memorial gifts, and donations for special land acquisitions are usually made through outright gifts of cash and/or appreciated securities. In recent years, however, people are also demonstrating their commitment to preserving our open space by making bequests through their Wills or Living Trusts.

A bequest is a gift of an item or items (usually money) to a specific beneficiary, and has many advantages. Simple to arrange, a bequest can be made when wills are made or revised, or a codicil can be added to an existing will. Furthermore, a bequest is revocable; you can change or eliminate the beneficiary if and when you wish. And because bequests to charitable organizations are wholly deductible from one's gross estate, they can offer significant federal estate tax savings. And making a gift through a will is possible for everyone, not just the wealthy.

A bequest can be for a specific dollar amount or for a percentage of your residual estate. Or a "contingent" bequest might be appropriate should the individual heirs you have named in your will predecease you. While a monetary bequest is the simplest way to benefit the Land Trust, other creative estate planning options can also be used depending on personal and family circumstances. These options could include naming the Lyme Land Conservation Trust as the beneficiary of a charitable remainder trust, a retirement plan, or a no-longer-needed, paid-up life insurance policy. All of these vehicles are tax-favored. However, anyone considering a bequest, or other estate gift, should consult his/her legal and financial advisors.

Ultimately, charitable gifts through one's estate are not primarily driven by tax benefits, but reflect the donor's philosophy and priorities. Not too long ago, the LLCT received a bequest from the estate of long-time resident Chamberlain Ferry. His widow, Barbara, explained: "Chamb deeply loved Lyme's pristine wetlands and rock-filled woods. He hoped his bequest would inspire others to act similarly so that as much as possible of Lyme's remaining open space could be preserved."

What a lovely sentiment to leave behind.

### *Rufus Barringer Resource Education & Protection Fund Established*

Charlene Barringer recently made a generous contribution to the Lyme Land Conservation Trust (LLCT) in the name of her late husband, Rufus Barringer. Rufus was a past president of the LLCT and was instrumental in bringing LLCT activities to the attention of the community through his conservation efforts. The LLCT Board of Directors voted to establish the "Rufus Barringer Resource Education & Protection Fund" and to use the funds so designated for programs that further the LLCT Mission. Members will now have the option of designating contributions to this fund, as well as to the Stewardship/Acquisition Fund. See page 8 for how to join the LLCT.

### **Eightmile River Wild & Scenic Community Meetings Coming Up**

In **May** the Eightmile River Wild & Scenic Study Committee will host a series of **Community Meetings** in the watershed towns of **East Haddam, Lyme and Salem** to present preliminary results and receive public input on identifying long-term strategies to protect the outstanding natural and cultural resource values of the Eightmile River Watershed. Please plan on attending the **Lyme Community Meeting on Tuesday, May 18, 7-9pm at the Lyme Public Hall**. Postcards announcing the meetings will be sent to all households in the three town area and information will be posted at <http://www.eightmileriver.org>



## Lyme Land Conservation Trust Fall Walk on the Ravine Trail



On Saturday, November 1st, the Lyme Land Conservation Trust (LLCT) held its Fall Walk on the Ravine Trail. By 9:30 a.m., 25 people had gathered at the western trail head on Joshuatown Road opposite The Nature Conservancy's Selden Preserve. The morning started with an educational discussion led by LLCT President Anthony Irving and LLCT Vice President Ralph Lewis. The discussion focused on tree and shrub identification, watersheds, and geology. Follow-up discussions along the Ravine Trail elaborated on the earlier information and provided visual examples of the geology of Lyme, the concept of watersheds, and tree and shrub types.

The geology of Lyme is fairly unique for Connecticut and New England. Rock types consist of sections of a proto-North American continent, the African continent, and ocean bottom due to several continental collisions and separations. The landscape in southeastern Connecticut is comprised of ridges that run west to east and fault lines that run north to south. This created a blocky terrain with north sloping rocks that were subsequently shaped by the glaciers of the Wisconsin Ice Age. As the glaciers moved southward, rocks were plucked from the south side of the ridges. These often resulted in cave like shelters for the early inhabitants of southeastern Connecticut and Lyme.

Multiple watersheds exist within the

area that is traversed by the Ravine Trail. These smaller watersheds are part of the larger Connecticut River watershed. A watershed is an area which has a single exit point for water run off. The Ravine Trail goes over a saddle where two watersheds originate. Water that falls on the north side of the saddle flows toward Whalebone Cove while water that falls on the south side of the saddle runs toward the entrance of Selden Creek, both of which drain directly to the Connecticut River.

Throughout the hike, many types of trees and shrubs were identified and discussed. Some of the species flourish in both wet and dry conditions. One example of this is mountain laurel due to its shallow root system. Other trees and shrubs that were identified along the Ravine Trail were birches, maples, beech, oak, ferns, and witch hazel. Although the majority of trees had already lost their leaves or flowers, the bark, canopy, and location of the trees assisted in their identification.

November 1st was a wonderful fall day for a walk in the Lyme woods. Much can be learned and shared on a guided walk. The Lyme Land Conservation Trust looks forward to your participation on future walks and thanks those who have made this walk on the Ravine Trail and other past walks enjoyable, educational, and memorable.

### NEW BOARD MEMBER

The Lyme Land Conservation Trust welcomes Susan Ballek Smith to the Board of Directors. She was appointed by President Anthony Irving to complete the term of a Board Member that had resigned. Susan is a life-long resident of Lyme, an avid hiker and photographer, and spends a great deal of time outdoors. She has a Bachelor's Degree in Fine Art and is an Educator at the Connecticut River Museum in Essex where she presents programs about the history of communities along the river. "I feel very passionate about the preservation and management of Lyme's open space and am happy to offer my skills to the Land Trust".

## President's Message

*by Anthony Irving*

With its founding over 30 years ago the Land Trust has operated on the principal that if Lyme is to protect its natural, scenic, historic and water resources, land protection and conservation need to play a vital role. This mission has gained momentum over the years, as it has become increasingly clear that these special assets need our attention now before they are lost forever. With my tenure on the board coming to a close in June, I thought it appropriate to revisit the issues and themes that drive the Land Trust's kinship with the land.

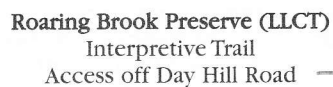
Lyme has outstanding natural resources. In my first president's message back in 1995 I noted that "The corridor from Boston to Washington is composed of cities and suburban centers with the highest density in the country...Other towns in the northeast and northwest parts of the state can claim greater areas of open space, but Lyme abuts a major river system (nearly eight miles of shoreline on the Connecticut River) and is only six miles from Long Island Sound. No near-coastal town from Washington to Boston can top our inventory of undeveloped lands". The proximity to Long Island Sound when combined with the extensive river shoreline, associated uplands and Lyme's large blocks of interior natural habitat makes this an area of exceptional biodiversity.

Lyme is growing. Little by little change is taking place. Over 140 new housing permits were issued during the last 10 years, and there is every reason to believe that this trend will continue, especially in light of the double-digit percentage of growth happening in all of the surrounding towns. In 50 years Lyme may or may not resemble the town we see today. It will depend on the actions we take to address growth over the next few years.

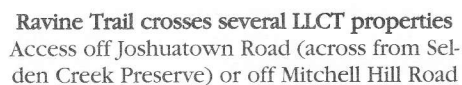
Growth is not necessarily a measure of success. As a society we seem to equate our achievements and prosperity with the concept of "more". But oftentimes what is really important is what we already have. In the case of Lyme we have unmatched natural resources, a place of great beauty, a way of life that is based on a spiritual appreciation of the land, and a cultural and historical landscape that is rooted in the town's rural character. If we believe in these attributes and consider them to be most important, then we have to put our energies into making sure they remain. Growth is not bad unless it takes away the things we value most.

There needs to be places like Lyme. As much of southeastern Connecticut spirals towards suburbanization, our community sees a higher calling for the

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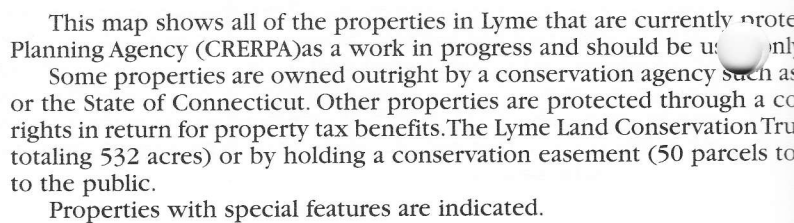
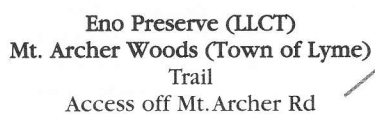


**Gillette Castle State Park (CT DEP)**  
Castle, concession stand and many trails  
Access off Ferry Road (aka Rt. 149)



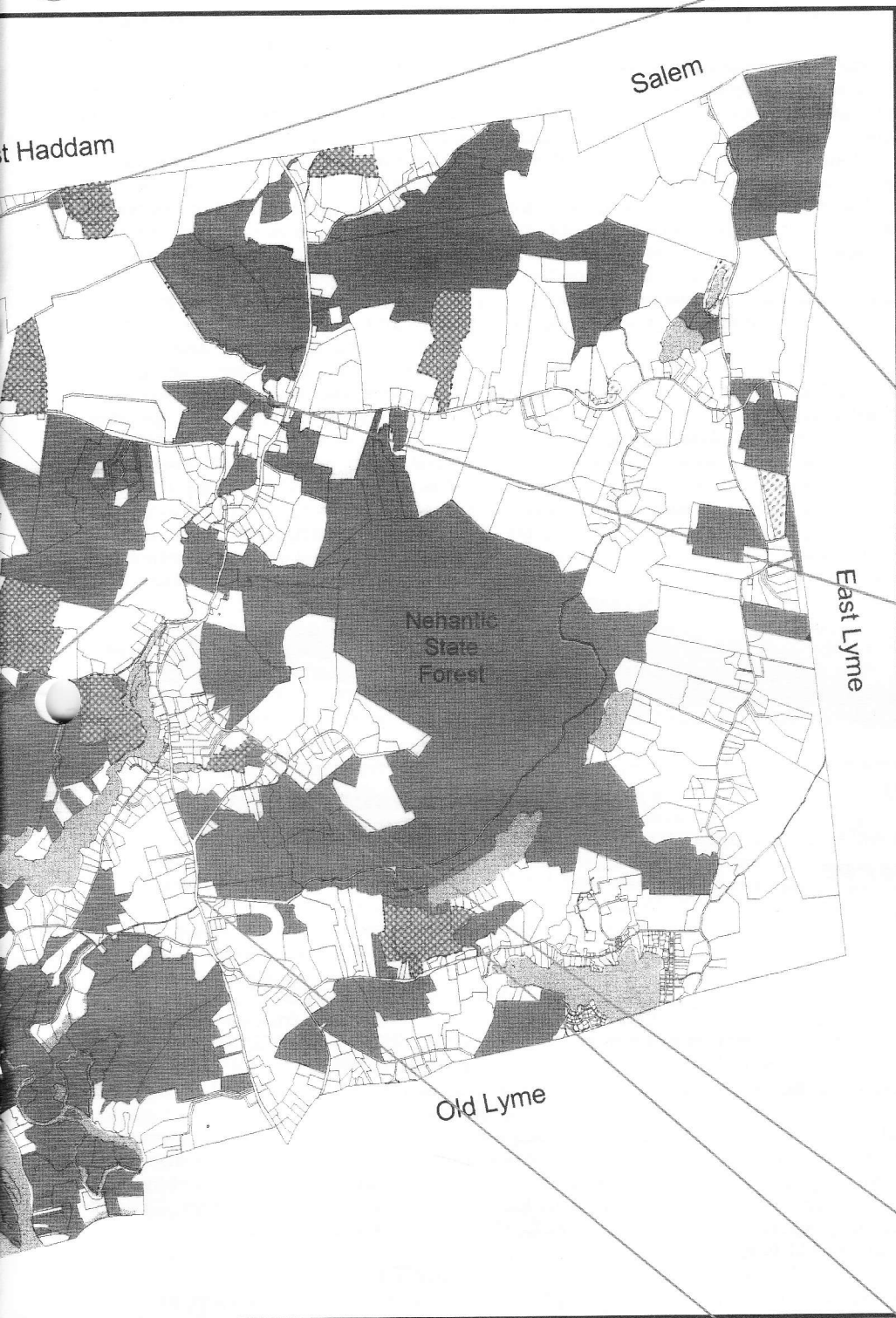
**Selden Creek Preserve (TNC)**  
Trail and information board  
Access off Joshuatown Road

**Selden Island State Park (CT DEP)**  
Camping  
Accessible only by boat





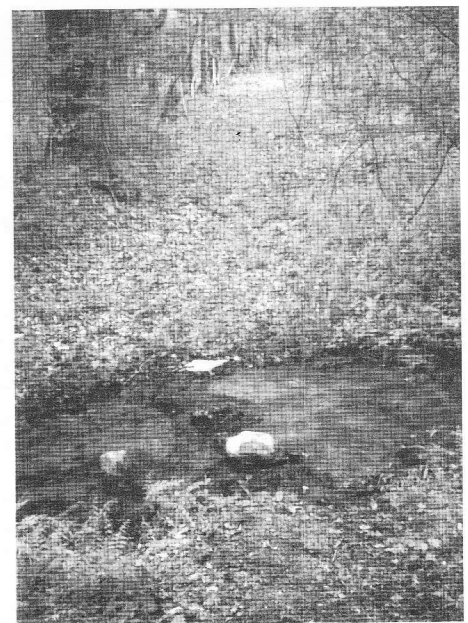
# Open Space



**Honey Hill Preserve (LLCT)**  
Trails  
Access off Clark Road

**Hartman Park (Town of Lyme)**  
Trails, Information Board  
Access off Gungy Road

**Pleasant Valley Preserve (TNC)**  
Trails, Information Board  
Access off Macintosh Road



**Plimpton Preserve (LLCT)**  
Trail  
Access off Sterling City Road

**Sterling City Preserve (LLCT)**  
Bench  
Access off Sterling City Road

**Nehantic State Forest (CT DEP)**  
Trails, Boat Launch, Swimming  
Access off Hamburg Road (aka Rt. 156)

ed in some way. It was produced by the Connecticut River Estuary Regional  
s a g al reference for planning purposes.  
he Lyme Land Conservation Trust, the Town of Lyme, the Nature Conservancy  
ervation easement, in which the property owner relinquishes development  
is protecting over 2,000 acres through either outright ownership (29 parcels  
ing 1,475 acres). All of the properties that the Trust owns outright are open

## CT State Landowner Incentive Program

by Judy Wilson, Biologist, CT DEP

The DEP Wildlife Division has been awarded a Tier I Landowner Incentive Program (LIP) grant from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) to develop a new private lands habitat program. This program must be designed to benefit Connecticut wildlife species considered "at risk" and the habitats that support them. The Tier I funds will be used to develop and administer a program to provide professional/technical and financial assistance to private landowners that will specifically benefit species at risk. Because the majority of federally listed, state listed and species determined to be at risk in Connecticut are depended on early successional and wetland habitats, LIP funding will be directed to these designated "priority habitats" and the "imperiled communities" found within them. These broad priority habitats include fields, old fields, grasslands, seedling/sapling stands, tidal wetlands, inland wetlands and even vernal pools. "Imperiled communities" are those natural communities defined by the DEP Environmental Geographic Information

Center and the University of Connecticut publication entitled *Thirteen of Connecticut's Most Imperiled Ecosystems* (Metzler and Wagner 1998). Examples of imperiled communities include beaches, dunes and other coastal communities, sandplain grasslands, pitch pine-scrub oak barrens and Atlantic white cedar swamps.

The Wildlife Division has applied for LIP Tier II funds that would be used to do on-the-ground projects that would specifically benefit species at risk. Unlike Tier I funds, these funds are awarded on a competitive basis, with all states competing for a limited amount of money. LIP Tier II funding can provide up to 75% of the cost of a project, but a 25% match is necessary. If awarded, LIP Tier II funds would be used to do on-the-ground habitat management and to execute conservation easements to reclaim, restore, enhance, maintain, manage and protect priority habitats and the at risk species they support. Specifically, projects would target early successional and wetland habitats and would include but not be limited to, old field restoration through the

use of heavy brush and tree cutting machinery, native warm season grass plantings, prescribed mowing and burning, invasive vegetation control, riparian zone restoration, shrubland restoration and management and open marsh water management. LIP funds cannot be used to buy land, but a small portion will be dedicated to the purchase of conservation easements to protect extremely valuable habitat in partnership with various conservation groups.

As development of the program progresses and the Wildlife Division learns if Tier II LIP funding will be available to provide financial assistance to private landowners, the Private Lands Program Biologist (Judy Wilson) will post up-to-date information in *Connecticut Wildlife* and several other conservation organization publications, as well as on the DEP Website, [www.dep.state.ct.us](http://www.dep.state.ct.us). Landowners will need to fill out an application to apply for technical/financial assistance, which will be awarded on a competitive basis.

In January 2004 \$1.5 billion in federal funding was released for conservation programs on working lands. Information on these programs is available at <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/farmbill/2002/products.html>. Landowners who want specific information regarding program participation should contact their local USDA Service Center or NRCS office, located at <http://offices.usda.gov> or in the telephone book under Federal Government, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

### Interpretive Trail Being Developed on the Roaring Brook Preserve

by Emily Lerner



On a beautiful, snowy day in January, a group of Lyme Land Conservation Trust Directors met at the Roaring Brook Preserve off Day Hill Rd. to begin work on a new educational trail. We marked out the trail and also noted sites of interest for informational signs. Though relatively small in size (about 7.5 acres), the Roaring Brook Preserve contains a variety of ecological habitats. Different ecosystems include an old field returning slowly to brush and

forest, a stand of red cedars, a relatively healthy stand of hemlocks, upland forest on a glacially-created sand/gravel terrace, a fast-moving brook with accompanying features of geologic interest, and a lowland forest of more cool and moisture-loving plants.

The creation of the trail and interpretive signs will be supported by the Rufus Barringer Fund. The goal is to create a trail accessible to all, but of particular interest to children. The trail will be blazed this spring and the informational signs are in progress. We hope to have the trail open to the public sometime this summer.

### Lyme Land Conservation Trust Needs Volunteers

The Lyme Land Conservation Trust is always interested in including even more enthusiastic volunteers in the challenging and rewarding work of conserving open space. While there are many tasks to be done, the following are priorities:

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

A Director of Lyme Land Conservation Trust is elected to serve a three year term and may be elected to serve an additional three-year term. Officers of the Board may serve a total of 10 years. We have openings every year as Director's terms end or they step down. The Board meets bi-monthly and has helps oversee existing properties and acquire new ones. We believe it is important to have a diversity of skill, interests, experience, and expertise on the Board. If you are interested, submit a letter of describing your qualifications to Russ Shaffer, Nominating Committee Chair, 68 Brockway Ferry Road, Lyme, CT 06371, 434-2527.

#### NEWSLETTER

Are you a photographer? A writer? We would love to include your work in our Bulletin. Call Linda Bireley, Newsletter Editor, 434-9864.

#### EDUCATION COMMITTEE WORKSHOPS

Do you have some interest or knowledge related to conservation or the natural landscape? Would you like the opportunity to share it? Contact Emily Lerner, 434-3626.

## President's Message *continued from page 3*

land. Instead of following a policy of tax base expansion that promotes growth, Lyme is actively in pursuit of preserving the remaining rural landscape. Remarkably, this approach is quite cost effective. Open space does not require new roads, services or extra classrooms. The lesson learned in most towns is that an increasing tax base ultimately leads to increased taxes. So rather than using the land for places to shop, to promote services and commercial enterprises and new residential subdivisions, Lyme can choose to remain a place of unfragmented woodlands; a home for wildlife; clean, free-flowing rivers and streams, unmatched views and places for recreation or repose. This is the guiding rationale for securing federally recognized Wild and Scenic River status for the Eightmile River.

We wouldn't be where we are without partnerships. Because of our world class natural resources, others in the region have come to believe in our protection efforts. The Nature Conservancy and the state together have spent millions of dollars on their own and in partnership with the town and the Land Trust to protect thousands of acres of our truly remarkable landscape. Without their help the town and the Land Trust could not have achieved the level of protection we enjoy today. State funding has dried up, and so we need to become more self-reliant if we are to succeed in the future.

Easements are the land protection tool that make the difference. The conservation easement, more accurately known as a conservation restriction, is the Land Trust's most successful vehicle for land protection, although it is not widely understood. With a typical conservation easement, a landowner sells or donates the

development rights to a piece of property while still retaining all other rights of ownership. So for example forestry and agriculture are acceptable when carried out using sound environmental practices. With the donation of a conservation easement to a non-profit such as the Land Trust, the value of the development rights, sometimes as much as 70% of the property's value, qualifies as a charitable contribution by the IRS. To date, 51 conservation easements totaling over 1700 acres have been donated to the Land Trust.

Lyme residents make it happen. From generations of Lyme families to new arrivals, our town is blessed with those who appreciate and actively pursue conservation goals. At 600 members, the Lyme Land Conservation Trust has one of the highest memberships in the state and is by far the leader in per capita membership. But it is the level of land protection that is most impressive. Landowners in town have donated to the Land Trust conservation easements on their properties as well as outright gifts of land totaling 79 properties or over 2000 acres in town. Add this to the efforts of the town, the state and other organizations and Lyme enjoys over 7000 protected acres. In addition to the land itself, residents have contributed over a million dollars towards Land Trust preservation efforts in town. This public support for land protection has been a point of great pride for the Land Trust. It is because of the people who live here that Lyme is legendary in the conservation community.

With my departure I can assure you that the Land Trust will retain the energy and enthusiasm that has made this organization so active in the community. It has been a great privilege for me to be part of what Lyme has accomplished.

## Mt. Archer Dedication *continued from page 1*

which time what was known as the "Last part of the Fourth Division" took place. One of the grants under this distribution was a tract "on the great hill betwixt Tantomoranum and Eight Mile River" and was set to Capt. Wm. Ely (Lyme Land Records, Book of Grants, Page 47).

In 1833, after more than one hundred and thirty years, Mt. Archer passed out of the Ely name and the land changed ownership several times until 1937. On February 23, 1937, 50 acres on the brow of the hill were conveyed to Walter Wilds of NYC while 225 additional acres on the same range to the west and south were under sale contract to the same person (Lyme Land Records, Vol. 51, Page 162). In 1996 the land transferred to Mt. Archer Farms LLC. The rest of the story should be familiar to you all and in 2003 the Town of Lyme once again took ownership of the land bringing it full circle.

So much for the history of Mt. Archer Woods. Its physical characteristics are not quite as varied. Topographically speaking, the parcel is flat and void of the hills and valleys, which are typical of much of Lyme. After being all open fields in the 1800's, the property is now completely wooded, comprised of oaks, maples, hickory, birch, beech and some of the biggest tulip trees I have ever seen. The property does contain several appealing and interesting human-built structures. One is its profuse network of stone walls. The other is a compound containing a series of foundations and stone corrals with a well-defined lane running through it. This lane, which starts at Honey Hill Lane, continues on through the property.

## Land Trust Board Votes Funds to Oppose Gravel Pit

At its most recent meeting, the Land Trust's Board of Directors voted unanimously to pledge \$5000 to the Pleasant Valley Association to support their fight against the newly proposed sand and gravel operation on Beaver Brook Road. Although this expenditure is outside the usual scope of Land Trust activity, the Board is deeply concerned about the environmental impacts of the proposed project - including noise and air pollution from 120 diesel truck trips per day.

It is because of Lyme's historic love and respect for the land that makes this project particularly odious. This is a town that most of us live in because of its outstanding environmental qualities. Indeed, it is cruel irony that the proposed gravel pit comes at a time when the Eightmile River watershed, which includes Beaver Brook, is being evaluated for federal designation as one of only six "Wild and Scenic" rivers in New England.

## LLCT Creates List Serve

The Lyme Land Conservation Trust has created a free and voluntary list serve. This service is designed to allow the Lyme Land Conservation Trust another means of communicating with its membership and as a vehicle for the exchange of relevant environmental information.

Any member who provided their email address to the Lyme Land Conservation Trust with their 2004 membership should be receiving an invitation to join the list serve. Anyone can subscribe to this list serve by sending a blank email to: [lymelandconservationtrust-subscribe@topica.com](mailto:lymelandconservationtrust-subscribe@topica.com) and can post an email to the list serve by addressing the email to: [lymelandconservationtrust@topica.com](mailto:lymelandconservationtrust@topica.com). Your email address remains unknown unless you send an email to the list serve and you can unsubscribe at any time.

For more information about this list serve, please go to the Topica website at: [www.topica.com](http://www.topica.com). The Lyme Land Conservation Trust looks forward to your voluntary participation in this free electronic communication service.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

This is where you will find Land Trust and local events that may be of interest to you. The events may be sponsored by any number of organizations. If an event relates to the Eightmile River Watershed, it will be designated as a "Going Wild in the Eightmile" or "GW8" event. Participating in these events will help you learn more about this very special watershed and its potential designation as a Wild and Scenic River.

- May 18, 2004**      **Eightmile River Wild & Scenic Community Meeting — A GW8 Event sponsored by the Lyme Land Conservation Trust**  
7:00 pm - 9:00 pm, Lyme Public Hall, 249 Hamburg Rd., Lyme, CT
- June 5, 2004**      **Tree Identification Walk — A GW8 Event and a Connecticut Blue Trails Event sponsored by the Lyme Land Conservation Trust**  
Rain Date, June 6      9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m., Nehantic State Forest, Uncas Lake parking lot.  
As part of the recognition of the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Connecticut Blue Trails the LLCT will sponsor a tree identification walk in the Nehantic State Forest. There will be a moderate hike from Uncas Lake into the surrounding hills. Bring a tree ID guide and water.  
Contact: Prescott Littlefield at 434-7758.
- June 6, 2004**      **Eight Mile River Ramble - A GW8 Event and a Connecticut Blue Trails Event sponsored by the Friends of Devil's Hopyard State Park.**  
10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., Devil's Hopyard State Park, Chapman Falls parking lot, off Hopyard Rd.  
This will be an easy to moderate hike of 3-4 miles (some rough sections) through wooded hillsides to the Hammond Mill Land Trust Preserve on Dolbia Hill Rd. There will be an option to carpool or walk back to the starting point. Wear sturdy shoes and bring water and a snack. Contact: Barb Bloomberg, (860) 873-8758.
- June 18, 2004**      **Lyme Land Conservation Trust Annual Meeting**  
7 to 9 p.m., Lyme Public Hall, 249 Hamburg Rd., Lyme, CT  
Dr. Steven Kellert of Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies will speak on the Cultural Ecology of Lyme.

## Using SBC/SNET Long Distance Supports LLCT

If you are a SBC/SNET long distance subscriber, you can now designate the Lyme Land Conservation Trust to receive, as a donation from SBC/SNET, 5% of your monthly long distance charges at no cost to you. Simply call SBC/SNET at 1-800-635-7638, give them your 13-digit account number plus the code number 3855, and designate the Lyme Land Conservation Trust to receive the donation.

## JOIN NOW

If you are not already a member of the Lyme Land Conservation Trust, won't you consider joining. Send tax deductible contributions to Box 1002, Lyme, CT 06371. Be sure to include a name and address.

Senior .....	\$ 5.00
Individual .....	10.00
Family .....	20.00
Subscribing .....	25.00
Contributing .....	50.00
Sustaining .....	100.00

Contributions to the Stewardship/ Acquisition and Rufus Barringer Funds are also welcome. Consider including the Land Trust in your will.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### LYME LAND CONSERVATION TRUST

#### OFFICERS (2003-2004)

Anthony Irving, *President*  
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