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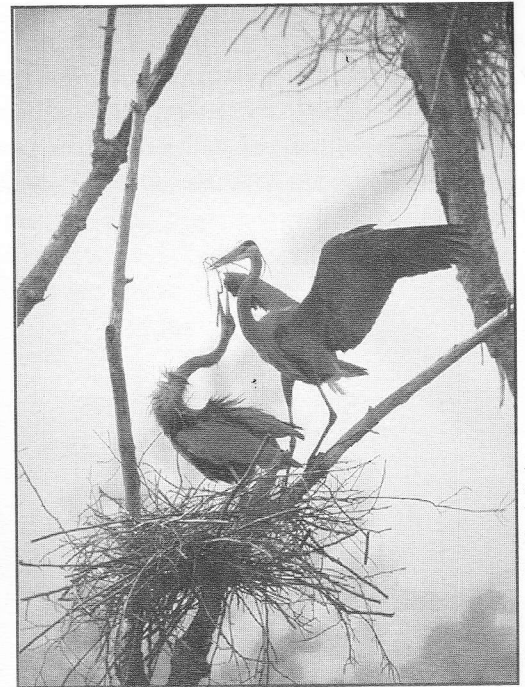
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LYME LAND
Conservation Trust

Bulletin

August 2006



Great Blue Herons Nest Building

Photo credit: Hank Golet

Bulletin

Pickwick's Preserve New Easement Links Joshuatown Road with Mt. Archer Woods

The generous donation to the Lyme Land Trust of a conservation easement from George and Nina Lombardino of Brooklyn, New York and Lyme, has made a new trail available to the public. This trail on Pickwick's Preserve now makes it possible to hike from Joshuatown Road through the Eno Preserve and the town-owned Mt. Archer Woods and Jewett properties to Pleasant Valley trails.

The easement accomplishes three objectives: it adds an important piece to Lyme's unfragmented open space, it opens an entrance to this space from Joshuatown Road and it serves as a special memorial to the Lombardino's Shetland sheepdog, who enjoyed rambling this trail with his owners. Other dog owners are especially encouraged to bring their dogs to enjoy this unique property.

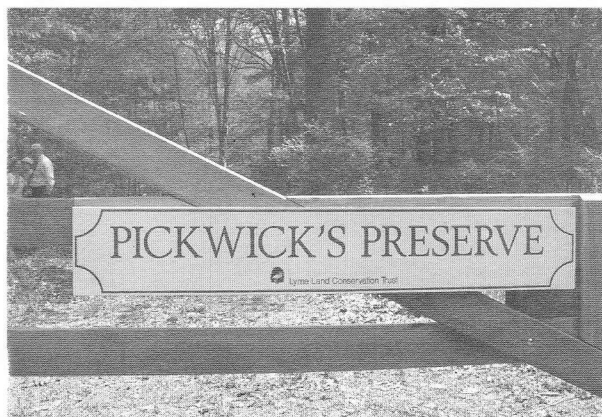
The twenty-acre Pickwick's Preserve is part of a larger area of old pastureland, with diverse tree species including oak, maple, black birch, ash, beech, hickory,

blackgum, and tulip poplar trees. The property is within the watershed of Joshua Creek and includes wetlands and several streams that drain into the Creek, providing a diverse habitat for mammals, birds, and amphibians. Together with the abutting 280-acre Mt. Archer Preserve, the Eno Preserve, and other neighboring preserves, a total of over 1,500 acres now forms a contiguous block of protected land.

Pickwick's Preserve can be reached from the dirt road at #183 Joshuatown Road. There is a parking area about 1/4 mile down the dirt road, in front of the "Pickwick's Preserve" sign. Light blue trail markers indicate the trail beyond the gate. An easy walk of about 1/2 mile connects with the Red trail in Mt. Archer Woods. The Land Trust is organizing a spring hike along these connecting trails to Pleasant Valley Preserve.

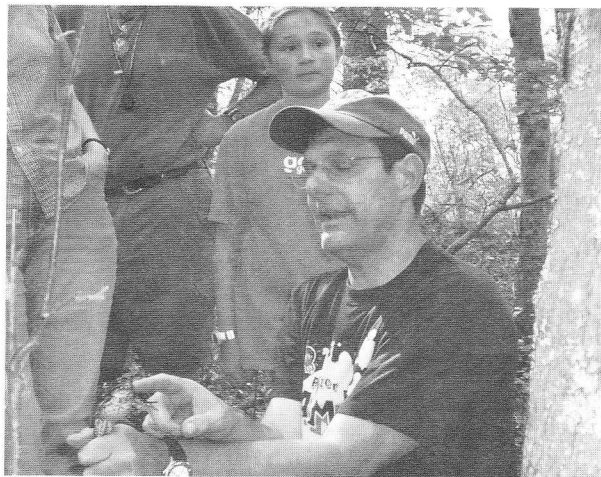
Amphibian Study and Collection with Ed Natoli

On the evening of June 9th, a small but enthusiastic group set out amphibian traps in several vernal pools in Pleasant Valley under the direction of Dr. Ed Natoli. The data collected was sent to the Peabody Museum in New



Workshop: What is

As the Lyme Land Trust begins an historic shift to focus on protection, the LLCT will offer the workshop "Stewarding the Land". The workshop will be held on Saturday, October 21st from 9:00 to 12:00. The workshop is intended for stewards of Lyme Land Trust property and the surrounding community. The morning will feature a talk by Tom Worthley, UConn professor of land stewardship and how management is a part of good stewardship. The afternoon will feature guided walks in the Pleasant Valley Preserve to examine the land. Coffee's Country Market will be included; a donation of \$10 per person will be requested. (Please see the calendar entry for further information.)



Ed Natoli points out how the gender of a green frog can be determined by the size of its ears. (Hint: A male frog's ears are bigger than his eyes; a female frog's ears are about the same size as her eyes.)

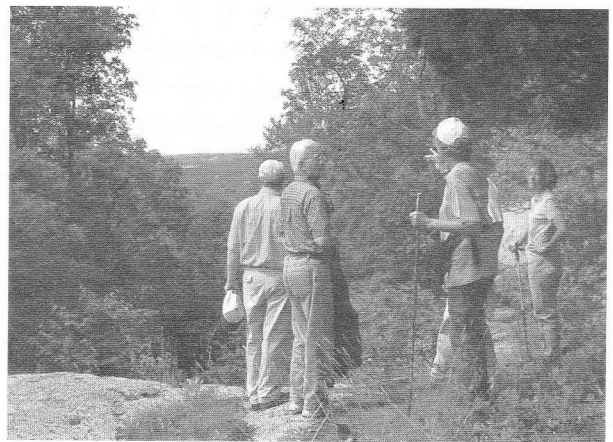
Haven for their Connecticut Amphibian Monitoring Project, which monitors the health of the population in vernal pools in various areas around the state. The simple traps, made from 2 liter soda bottles, were partly submerged around the edges of the pools and left overnight.

Good Stewardship?

More active management of the many properties already in *Land: Skills and Information for Protection and Management.* 10:00 to 2:00, with a rain date of Sunday, October 22nd. This event is for land owners and all interested members of the community. The afternoon will be spent in small groups with the Extension Forester, presenting the concepts of sustainable stewardship and management issues. A box lunch from 12:00 to 1:00 is requested. Space will be limited; please pre-regis-

The next morning we collected the bottles at each pool; the captured creatures were tentatively identified and each one of interest was put in a labeled and sealed plastic "baggie", identified by pool, to send back to the Peabody. Each pool was a little different: at one pool we found mostly tiny tadpoles, tentatively identified as green frogs, at other pools we found tiny salamanders.

At the end of our collection, Dr. Natoli set up a microscope on the hood of his car and we were able to see amazing close-ups of these creatures. One of Dr. Natoli's students entertained and impressed us with her ability to reach into a pool and capture a green frog barehanded and we were able to all get a wonderful close-up look at a rather unhappy green frog. The Lyme Land Trust is fortunate to have people such as Dr. Natoli willing to take the time to share their extensive knowledge with us. It was a very educational outing and (with the exception of the green frog), a good time was had by all!



Hikers enjoy the view of Hamburg Cove and the Connecticut River from the top of the ridge in the Plimpton Preserve on a recent Second Saturday Walk.



CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

LYME LAND CONSERVATION TRUST

AUGUST 2006

SECOND SATURDAY WALK SERIES

Our Second Saturday Series includes walks led by a director of the LLCT board on one of their favorite trails in Lyme. All walks are held rain or shine. Anyone completing 5 or more of the walks will receive a LLCT tote bag for their efforts! For further information about location of properties, see Trails and Properties page on our website at www.lymelandtrust.org.

We will continue our series of events on second Saturdays into the winter, with two indoor offerings in January and February. See below for further details.

Saturday, Aug 12th, 10:00 AM

Kayak in Lord's Cove with Susan Ballek. There is a limit of 15 participants for this event. Please contact Susan Ballek at 434-9336 to pre-register and for further information.

Saturday, September 9th, 10:00 AM

Ravine Trail with Ralph Lewis. Meet at Joshuatown Rd. entrance; parking at Selden Creek Preserve lot across road.

Saturday, October 14th, 10:00 AM

Pleasant Valley with Mike Richardson. On Macintosh Rd, off Rte. 156.

Saturday, October 21st, 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM (Raindate: Sunday, October 22nd):

Workshop: "Stewarding the Land: Skills and Information for Protection and Management."

Speaker: Thomas Worthley, UConn Extension Forester. Please join us for this exciting stewardship workshop. The morning session will be held at the Lyme Consolidated School gymnasium; the afternoon session will consist of a guided field walk in Pleasant Valley Preserve. Lunch is included; \$10 donation requested. Space limited; please contact Emily Lerner at 434-3626 by October 14th to register.

Saturday, November 11, 11:00 AM

Winter Tree I.D. Walk in Hartman Park. Glenn Dreyer, Director of the Connecticut College Arboretum and Mary Guitar will lead a walk to learn about identifying trees without their leaves. Meet at Hartman Park entrance on Gungy Rd.

Saturday, January 13th, 4:00 to 6:00 PM

A Film and Food Social, Hadlyme Hall. Join us for the engaging family drama "Fly Away Home," along with snacks and drink from local farms and businesses.

Sunday, February 11th, 2:00 to 4:00 PM

Talk on Snakes by Linda Krulikowski, Lyme Public Hall. Local snake expert, Linda Krulikowski, will share a program on snakes for the whole family which includes a slide show and hands-on interaction with snakes.

A recent membership letter went out addressed to "former" members. Our membership year runs July 1 to June 30. We might have made a better choice of salutation in reminding last year's members it was time to renew. Apologies if this caused confusion.

For further information, call Mary Guitar at 434-7285 or visit www.lymelandtrust.org