



ANNUAL
REPORT

2019

A MESSAGE TO OUR FRIENDS AND SUPPORTERS

By the end of 2019 the Land Trust of Virginia's easement donors had conserved over 20,000 acres, a significant milestone in our 28-year history.

In 2019, LTV applied to the Land Trust Accreditation Commission for the second renewal of our status as an Accredited Land Trust, and following a thorough review, we were granted renewed accreditation. This designation serves as recognition that we conduct our business professionally and ethically.

These achievements have been made possible, in large part, by the many individuals and businesses that have been so generous with donations of their time and money in support of our work.

Conservation Easements

LTV recorded 14 conservation easements in 2019 that protected 1,730 acres in Fauquier, Loudoun, Rappahannock, Clarke, Culpeper, Hanover and Goochland Counties. Those easement properties are highlighted on pages 6, 7 and 8.

The Board approved another nine conservation easements in 2019 to be recorded in 2020 that will protect another 909 acres.

LTV held a total of 188 conservation easements at the end of 2019 that protect 20,863 acres in 17 counties. We are deeply appreciative that more landowners have made so many significant easement donations to LTV.

Stewardship

In 2019, LTV monitored every property in our easement portfolio. Our staff nurtured our relationships with easement donors and cultivated new relationships with successor owners of our easement properties.

Stewardship is an increasingly significant proportion of the work we do. Each easement we record adds to the time demands placed on our staff. LTV is ever mindful of our long-term stewardship responsibilities.

Accreditation

The Land Trust Accreditation Commission's accreditation process is a rigorous examination of every aspect of a land trust's operations. Accreditation confirms that a land trust conducts its work with excellence and integrity. Once accredited, a land trust undergoes an equally demanding review every five years to renew its accreditation.

In 2009, LTV was one of the first 54 land trusts in the nation (out of more than 1,700) to become accredited. Five years later, in 2014, LTV was one of the first 43 land trusts to earn a renewal of its accreditation. In 2019, LTV submitted our application for the second renewal of our accreditation. LTV is now one of the first 28 land trusts in the nation to have its accreditation renewed twice.

Staff and Volunteers

Ashton Cole, Director of Conservation and Stewardship, Isa Bryant, Stewardship Manager, and Seth Young, Conservation and Stewardship Associate, have become an effective and productive team. Beyond the 14 easements recorded and the nine additional easements approved by the Board in 2019, Ashton, Isa and Seth worked on a dozen other easement projects that will be ready for Board review in 2020. They also made significant contributions to the preparation of LTV's application for accreditation renewal.

LTV continues to grow our capacity to do more land conservation and stewardship work in the future. An important part of our growth in 2019 was the addition of Andy Stout and Ari Govoni-Young to our staff.

Andy has years of land conservation experience, formerly working in the field of archaeological resource protection. At LTV, he works closely with Sally Price, LTV's Executive Director, on special programs and has contributed to our expanded outreach to foundations that support land conservation organizations.

Ari has taken on office management responsibilities at LTV, and her diligence and wonderful smile have been a great addition. With Ari on board, Kerry Roszel, Development Manager, has been able to focus more time on her fundraising work with individuals and corporations.

Sally and Kerry have continued to build LTV's roster of volunteers. They have helped us expand and improve all aspects of our development program and have also contributed time to our stewardship work.

Collaboration and Outreach

LTV continues as a Steering Committee member of the Blue Ridge Conservation Alliance (BRCA). The BRCA seeks ways to leverage our collective resources for the protection of the environment of the Blue Ridge Mountains.

LTV participated in the Appalachian Trail Conservancy's (ATC) Large Landscape Conservation Conference held in Shepherdstown, WV. Members of the eastern regional land conservation communities were in attendance. ATC is especially supportive of LTV's efforts to conserve land along the Blue Ridge, from the Shenandoah National Park to the Potomac River.

LTV's connection to local, statewide and national conservation communities keeps us informed about developments in land conservation and enables us to share our conservation experiences with others. LTV attends Virginia's United Land Trusts' annual meetings. In 2019, LTV was honored to have Sally selected as a member of the Land Trust Alliance's Leadership Council, a national honor, which includes participating in two years of leadership programs. Then in October, LTV's staff and Board Chair attended the Land Trust Alliance's 2019 National Land Conservation Conference ("Rally") in Raleigh, NC.

Development and Capacity Building

LTV's conservation successes result in additional permanent stewardship responsibilities, and our Board recognizes the growth of those obligations and works to ensure that we have adequate funding to meet them.

LTV has received gifts of real estate in Stafford, Prince William and Albemarle Counties. Each represents an opportunity to conserve more land. LTV accepts these donations with the same care taken when we accept donations of conservation easements. We will monetize several of these gifts to bolster the endowment of our conservation and stewardship work. One of the properties is currently on the market (see page 18 of this report) and we expect to list others in 2020.

LTV has become the holder of more conservation easements than any other private land trust in Virginia through the work of a professional staff, a dedicated Board and the generosity of our many supporters. We are grateful for the faith that so many have in us and will continue to prove ourselves worthy of your trust.

For the Board,



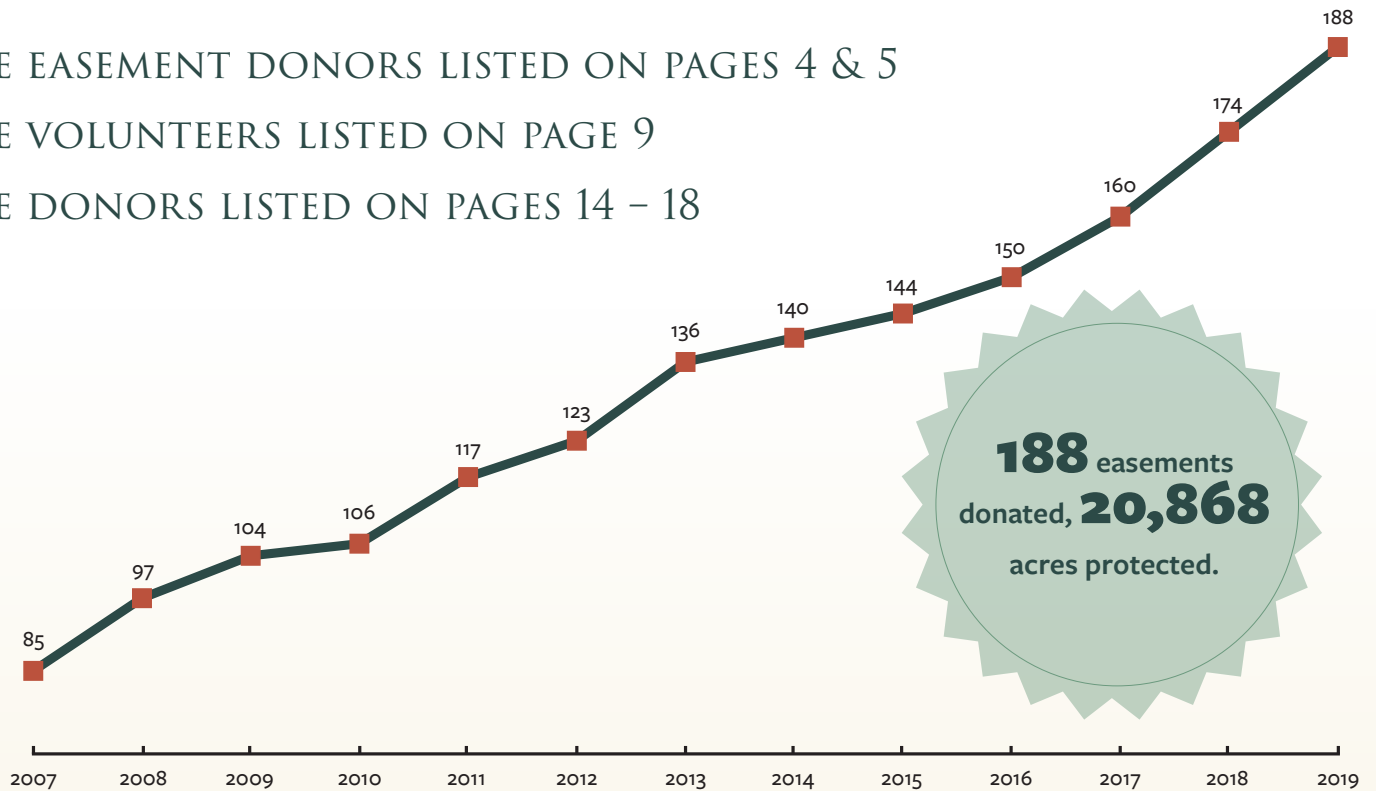
Christopher C. Dematatis

LOOK WHAT YOU'VE HELPED US ACCOMPLISH

SEE EASEMENT DONORS LISTED ON PAGES 4 & 5

SEE VOLUNTEERS LISTED ON PAGE 9

SEE DONORS LISTED ON PAGES 14 – 18



ACRES PROTECTED BY LTV EASEMENTS

Counties

- Loudoun:** 9,087 acres
- Fauquier:** 5,023 acres
- Greene:** 1,353 acres
- Culpeper:** 1,307 acres
- Nelson:** 850 acres
- Albemarle:** 819 acres
- Orange:** 544 acres
- Rappahannock:** 532 acres
- King George:** 318 acres
- Madison:** 290 acres
- Clarke:** 207 acres
- Stafford:** 187 acres
- Goochland:** 117 acres
- Louisa:** 99 acres
- Hanover:** 72 acres
- Fredericksburg:** 3 acres

Protected Cultural and Natural Resources



Forest: 8,473 acres



Farmland and Agricultural Lands: 10,294 acres



Wetlands, Riparian Areas, and Floodplains: 1,016 acres



Mountain Areas and Steep Slopes: 1,875 acres



Rivers, Creeks, and Streams: 100 miles



Battlefield Properties (38 properties): 1,958 acres

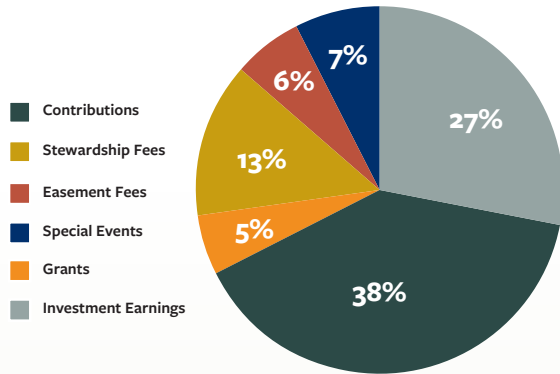


Properties proximate to national, state, or local parks, forests, and wildlife areas: 35 properties

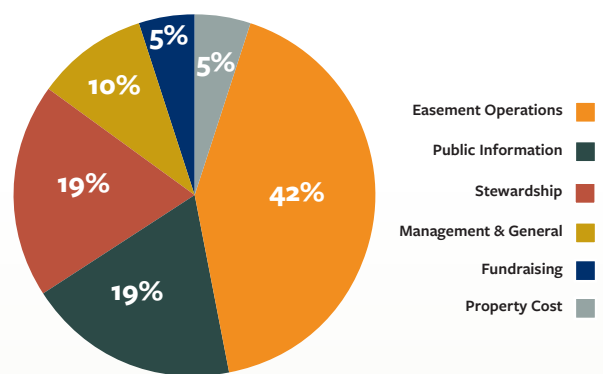


2019 FINANCIAL REPORT

2019 Earned Revenue



2019 Expenses



COMMUNITY CONSERVATION LEADERS

The following is a listing of the individuals and families who have protected their properties through conservation easements. Their names are listed in the order in which easements were recorded beginning in 1998 through 2019.

Cammack Brothers Partnership
 Monroe and Mary Leigh*
 Virginia Friend
 Christine Perdue and Turner Smith, Jr.
 Edward and Portia Meares*
 Jonelle St. John and Stephen Zielenski
 James Clark, III
 Donna Arnold
 Marc and Janna Leepson
 Edward Harrell
 Winston and Linda Porter
 Ayrshire Farm, LC
 Frank Kraemer, Jr.
 Herb and Jacqui Gammons
 Scott Denman and Virginia Watkins
 Dean Linderman
 Bill and Susan Ferster
 Michael Henke
 Chris and Linda Young
 George Griffith Estate
 Mae Jane Coughlin*
 Murrell Trittipoe*
 Richard and Susan Barnett
 Jean Mohler* and Evan Mohler
 Terry and Diana Arney
 Lori Keenan and Sean McGuinness
 Al diZerega
 Dr. John and Di Cook
 Dr. Lawrence Finkel and Anna Penna

Ed and Karen Hauswald
 Carolyn Reeder* and Jack Reeder
 Potomac Appalachian Trail Club
 Dot Shetterly
 Patric Copeland and Maura Walsh-Copeland
 Sara Loken*
 Dr. Gar Royer
 Robert Elgin
 Dr. Alfred Griffin, Jr. and Dr. Susan Griffin
 Charles and Toni Gauthier
 Northern Virginia Conservation Trust
 Hank and Marcia Woolman
 Mark and Wanda Salser
 Jeffrey and Sandra Middour
 Jeffrey and Herta Gould
 William and Lou Kennedy
 Charles MacFarlane
 Francis and Margaret O'Neill
 Jay and Estelle Zeiler
 Vern and Mary Sue Conaway
 Gary and Debra Callen
 Michael and Allyson Alto
 Michael and Karen Jackley
 Tom and Ruth Peters
 Royce and Lee Kincaid
 Chris Ambrose
 Mark and Kate Zurschmeide
 Dean and Margarita Dilley
 Roger Duncan and Barbara Toohill

John and Laura Robic
 Virginia Tax Credit Partners
 Eric DeSilva
 Wildcat Farm
 Donald and Mary Graham
 Learning Tree Farms, LLC
 Bob Soonthornchai
 Mutton Hollow, Inc.
 Beaver Creek Farm, LLC
 Nevertell Farm, LLC
 Rodion Cantacuzene* and Melissa Cantacuzene
 Sam and Uta Brown
 William Harrison
 Glaydin Hamlet, LLC
 Bruce* and Edie Smart
 Guy and Valerie Dove
 Paul and Evelyn McMichael
 Patricia Milligan
 John Milligan
 Kathryn Milam and Barbara Riggs
 Ben and Carol Lenhart
 Charles Strother, Jr.*
 David Dobson
 Wayne and Linda Huyard
 Malcolm* and Pamela Baldwin
 Deborah Tabb
 John and Susan Stanford
 Sharon Hickson
 Roger and Azita Rutti

Paul and Pamela Smith
 Rose Marie Bogley
 Chris and Barbara Wall
 Doug and Toni Flory
 Dr. George and Nichola Bazaco
 Kelly Family Partnership
 Mimi Miran
 Catharine Tucker
 Darrin Mollett and Bill Ballhaus
 Kathleen Timberlake
 Peter Basser and Georgia Ravitz
 Drs. Norris and Christine Adams
 Dr. Barry and Evelyn Strauch
 Bobby Joe Wheeler
 Sally Kurtz
 Ronde and Claudia Barber
 Dan Reeves*
 Vince and Sharon Dizenzo
 Jeremy Lee*
 Kerry and Linda Marshall
 George Wheeler, III
 Margee Morrison
 Mary Fleming Finlay
 Robert and Virginia Greenlaw
 Paul and Marion MacMahon
 Jim and Barbara Wilson

Bettina Gregory
 Peter Trick
 Les and Marilyn Cheek
 Larry Buckner, Sr.
 Dr. Stephen and Carole Napolitano
 Edward and Ann MacMahon
 Paul and Lee Lawrence
 Dr. Ann Ma
 Bob Pettit and Sandy Wilson
 Play Garden Properties
 Downtown Greens, Inc.
 Dr. Stephanie and Joe Spytek
 Stafford County
 Dr. Thomas Gilbert, Jr.
 Miller School of Albemarle
 Opal Development Partners, LLC
 Monique Maniet and Max Richtman
 Jeff and Linda Millington
 Meredyth Farm
 Waterford Conservation Associates
 Mike Smith
 Patricia Richards
 Inglewood Farm
 Barbara Heller
 Vickie Southall and Faye Stewart
 Fauquier County

James and Mary Hutton
 Andrew and Brenda Pryor
 Rock Hill Farm Property, LLC
 Dr. Sarah Jo and Kyle Luby
 The Montebello Rosse Trust
 American Environment Foundation
 The McDaniel Family
 Scott Stinson
 Jacob Porter
 Bedford and Amy Rogers
 Ben Cooper and Polly Gault
 Reuben Firmin and Claire O'Brien
 NERD Farms, LLC
 Stumptown Farm, LLC
 Dencrest, LLC
 Bradley J. Bondi and Tandy G. Bondi
 Lowell D. Pratt, Jr. and Mary C. Pratt
 Henselstone Estates, LLC
 Matthew R. Blunt and Melanie A. Blunt
 Charles T. Akre Jr. and Deanna S. Akre
 Paxson Road Farms, LLC
 Catharine W. Tucker, Trustee
 Shield Family Limited Partnership V
 Katrina Merrigan, John Mizelle and Edwin Merrigan

* deceased



NEW PROPERTIES IN CONSERVATION EASEMENT – WELCOME TO THE CLASS OF 2019!

It used to be that you had to subdivide the land for it to be valuable, then sell it. But the 14 families listed on these pages made the ultimate decision for their properties and said, “No way, not us! We want it to stay the way it is forever!” And as a result, the value of the natural resources to our community will only become increasingly valuable as our open spaces continue to disappear. We thank them for their conservation leadership!



Catharine W. Tucker **73.5 Acres, Hanover County**

The Tucker property is rolling, with numerous streams and wetlands, and the land is almost entirely forested. Ms. Tucker donated an easement in 2012, which is co-held by LTV and the Capital Region Land Conservancy. In subsequent years, she has purchased additional acreage, and wanted to amend the original easement to protect the entirety of her property. The property has an exceptional diversity of flora, including areas of mature hardwood forest, that Ms. Tucker knows like the back of her hand. The property has come down through her family, and she has gained intimate knowledge of the various species and other aspects of the property in her capacity as a life-long conservationist and environmental educator. She uses her property as an outdoor classroom to teach various groups, including students in Virginia Master Naturalist classes. She is past recipient of LTV's Steward of the Year award, which was given at LTV's 2018 Garden Party.



Charles T. Akre Jr. and Deanna S. Akre **41 Acres, Rappahannock County**

The 41-acre Akre property is situated in Rappahannock County, Virginia. The property consists almost entirely of open fields. The topography rises from the road frontage to a central point, which is where the 19th century historic primary dwelling is located. The property is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is regarded as one of the best early examples of Italianate architecture in Virginia. The Akres are wonderful conservationists and have planted gardens with native plants and native grasses have been planted in the fields (and are not being mowed). The LTV easement on the property helps maintain this open-space and agriculturally rich land, while also preventing additional development. The Akre property is also adjacent to additional protected properties.



NERD Farms, LLC **165 Acres, Clarke County**

The 165-acre NERD Farms property is located five miles northwest of Berryville, Virginia. The property is now protected with a conservation easement donated by the family to LTV. The protective agreement on the property preserves the property's open landscapes and prime agricultural soils. The farm will now remain intact and will no longer be under threat of subdivision into multiple lots. In previous years, the property was used as a horse farm and will remain available for this purpose. A portion of the property is now dedicated to a nutrient reduction program intended to improve water quality, with an overall goal of supporting the health and revitalization of the Chesapeake Bay.

**Bradley J. Bondi
and Tandy G. Bondi
144 Acres
Loudoun County**

Brad and Tandy Bondi believe in the preservation of our history and the conservation of our natural resources. They believe, “We have an obligation as a community to work together to not only preserve our farmland and open spaces, but we also must work together to oppose the efforts by developers to destroy it. We considered other groups but ultimately decided on the Land Trust of Virginia because we believe LTV is the most diligent in their commitment to preservation.” Thanks to the Bondis, they not only protected their 144 acres, located three miles northeast of Upperville, but they also established a special fund with Mosby Heritage Area Association called the Bondi Family Land Conservation and Battlefield Preservation Fund, to help other families preserve their properties. The Bondis’ property offers scenic and open views from Willisville Road, and features more than 12 acres of wetlands, 74 acres of forest, and approximately 65 acres of significant battlefield land within the Unison Battlefield Historic District.



**Dencrest, LLC
135 Acres, Fauquier County**

The Dencrest property conservation easement protects 135 acres of scenic open space comprised of large pastures separated by tree lines. The property features significant agricultural soils and water resources. The property is currently being used for equestrian uses and pasture and plays a critical role in the sport of foxhunting, providing open space for riders to hunt and bordering two of the most historic hunts in the United States. The property is highly visible from Atoka Road, which is a designated Virginia Byway. The property is totally surrounded by other properties under conservation easement, making it now part of one of our Country’s most densely conserved areas. The Dencrest easement is now part of a truly remarkable success story of private piecemeal land conservation that eventually results in the protection of huge swaths of land. The combined efforts and shared conservation ethic of these private citizens has resulted in beautiful landscapes, permanently conserved for public enjoyment, and epitomizing the vision of the Virginia Byway.



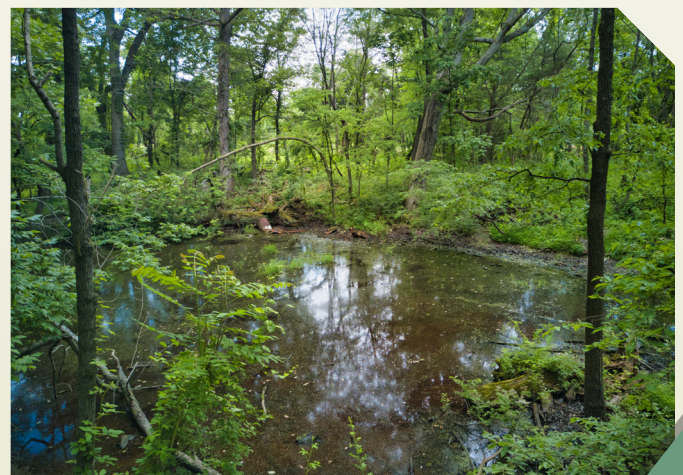
**Henselstone Estates, LLC
222 Acres, Rappahannock &
Culpeper Counties**

The Henselstone property consists of mostly open fields, as well as smaller patches of forests and various wetland areas. The property straddles both Rappahannock and Culpeper Counties, and is about a mile southwest of Amissville, Virginia. A portion of the property is in a Civil War battlefield, where there was heavy skirmishing at “Corbin’s Crossroads”. Following the Battle of Antietam, Union General George McClellan engaged in a slow pursuit of

the retreating Confederate forces. There were a series of cavalry battles, which took place over the course of about 10 days, mostly in Loudoun, Fauquier and Rappahannock Counties. The fighting at Corbin’s Crossroads was the final skirmish in this series of battles, and involved clashes between cavalry, infantry and artillery brigades. The result of the 10-day series of battles was a successful repelling of the Union army and President Lincoln’s decision to replace General McClellan with General Ambrose Burnside. The protection of the property’s open space accomplished by this easement ensures the property will remain intact as a single farm for generations to come, and the historic landscapes will remain protected.

**Stumptown Farm, LLC
87 Acres, Loudoun County**

LTV was thrilled to help Chuck Kuhn and the Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy with the permanent protection of this property, which is known as the JK Black Oak Wildlife Sanctuary. The land will remain totally undeveloped and will serve as an oasis for a wide variety of important and interesting species. During spring months, more than a dozen vernal pools establish themselves in various locations across the property, and the woods come alive with the sounds of nature. The specific type of habitat found on the property is designated as “globally rare”, and numerous types of aquatic and terrestrial species have been observed over the years, including various salamanders, frogs and fairy shrimp. The land is now owned and managed by the Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy. The Conservancy hopes to eventually conserve adjacent lands thus creating an even larger ecologically significant sanctuary for the conservation and study of native wildlife.





**Lowell D. Pratt, Jr. & Mary C. Pratt
60 Acres, Loudoun County**

According to Lowell Pratt, “We bought the property with the intention of placing most of it into an easement. It was an ideal candidate, surrounded by other properties already in easement, most if not all with LTV. It had been subdivided into seven small lots, which if developed would have changed the complexion of that rural part of Loudoun County forever.” Thanks to the efforts of the Pratt family, the easement protects the rural character of this corner of Loudoun County, and leaves it available for agricultural and forestry uses. The property is located on Poor House Lane, which is a County-designated historic road in the Beaverdam Creek Historic Road District.

**Paxson Road Farms, LLC
155 Acres
Loudoun County**

According to Chuck Kuhn, Founder, President & CEO of JK Moving, “By putting this farmland in a conservation easement with LTV, we are protecting the land and this important charitable endeavor in perpetuity.” The 150-acre farm, now under easement with LTV, ensures the future protection of the property’s open space and natural resources. Then in 2018, as part of JK



Moving Service’s philanthropic effort to address hunger and food insecurity, the JK Community Farm was organized as a 501c3 nonprofit. The Community Farm grows fresh, organic fruits and vegetables for those in need and for distribution by nonprofits, including Loudoun Hunger Relief.



**Katrina Merrigan, John Mizelle and Edwin Merrigan
499.5, Culpeper County**

Katrina Merrigan, John Mizelle and Edwin Merrigan, collectively own almost 500 acres along the Hazel River in Culpeper County. Together they farm the land, growing various crops and raising cattle. Katrina, John and Edwin own adjacent parcels, and given their shared love of the land and their desire to protect it for future

generations, they decided they would each donate a permanent conservation easement to LTV. The land includes amazing scenic vistas, forests, rich farmland, and significant water resources, including over a mile of the Hazel River, which is a State-Designated Scenic River. Katrina’s and John’s parcels also contain mapped Civil War battlefield areas, including over 80 acres of Core Area and Study Area for the Battle of Rappahannock Station I.



**Shield Family Limited Partnership
117 Acres, Goochland County**

The conservation values protected under easement by LTV on the 117-acre Shield property, located six miles east of Goochland, include scenic open space, 103 acres of forest and over an acre of wetlands. The property also contains habitat for the Spotted Turtle. Goochland County has a special history regarding land conservation, with the first ever easement in Virginia granted on a property near the Shield farm back in 1968. LTV is proud to have completed its first easement in Goochland and may be working with the Shields in the future to protect additional land nearby.

**Matthew R. Blunt and
Melanie A. Blunt
100 Acres
Fauquier County**

LTV is thrilled to have helped former Missouri Governor Matt Blunt and his wife Melanie Blunt conserve their property. The Blunts care deeply about historic preservation and the preservation of the natural beauty of Virginia, and conserving their farm achieves both goals. Known as Ashleigh Farm, the property is listed on the National Register of historic places. The Blunts raise cattle and sheep on the property. The LTV easement assures that the family farm and rich land and history will remain for future generations. The property is entirely within the Crooked Run Valley Rural Historic District and within the Mosby Heritage Area, which was designated by the Commonwealth of Virginia in 1995. The property is bound on three sides by public roads, including two Virginia Byways. The easement donated by the Blunts forever protects the historic landscapes of Ashleigh Farm.



VOLUNTEERS

We love these people. Some are regulars in and around LTV's office. Some come out for the busy day of an event. Some are out helping us walk properties during stewardship season. But, thanks to everyone listed on this page, more and more Virginia land is getting conserved. We give all of them our heartfelt gratitude.

- | | | | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Ken Alm | Patricia A. Ewing | Reverend Weston Mathews | Philip D. Paschall | Barbara Sharp |
| Dianne Beal | Laura Farrell | Rebecca McDermott | Sydney Pemberton | Robin Short |
| James Behan | Monica Fernandez | Amy McNeely | Carly Price | Susan Smith |
| Jay Bryant | Fred Fernandez | Jeff Millington | James E. Rich | Jennifer Taylor |
| Childs F. Burden | Polly L. Gault | Linda Millington | Paula Robinson | Linda Taylor |
| Steffanie Burgevin | Ari Govoni-Young | Vicky Moon | Claire Rodenberg | Laura Thorpe |
| Michael Catlett | June Hambrick | Connie Moore | Will Roszel | Mariette Vanderzon |
| Lisa Catlett | Katherine Hunter | Eleanor Morison | Dev Roszel | Birge S. Watkins |
| Joe Coleman | Micaela Hyams | Martha Munn | Ben Roszel | April Wintle |
| Mary Ellen D'Andrea | Mary Judkins | Jared Nieters | Rebecca Schaffer | Carmel Wood |
| Luc Dejager | Stephanie L. Kenyon | Janet Nolan | Claude Schoch | Kaylee Young |
| Christopher C. Dematatis | Susan Lamons | Suzanne Obetz | Doug Scott | |
| Pamela Donehower | Kalie Lasley | Lilla Ohrstrom | Len Shapiro | |



“ I volunteer for LTV because I have seen so much valuable open space gone wasted in my native Belgium, and saw things go the same direction in Loudoun County in the course of fox hunting the area over the last 10 years. I feel fortunate to still be able to enjoy so much pristine open space and thought I should do whatever little I can do to help preserve that land.”

– Luc Dejager



“ I volunteer because I am committed to the preservation and conservation of farmland, open space and scenic views for the generations that come after us. We are here to do good.”

– Robin Short

“ I volunteer for the Land Trust of Virginia since, as an individual, I can focus on what I CAN do to make a difference in preserving our beautiful land. Protecting the land and keeping it wholesome and beautiful as nature has designed it delights and sustains us and all creatures great and small.

Moreover, I enjoy volunteering with LTV because its members are crackling bright, hardworking and creative in facing challenges to protect Virginia's land. I feel my contribution supports them in expanding their strength as a collective force. Now THAT is a great feeling! Thank you.”

– Laura Thorpe



“ I volunteer for LTV because I believe in preserving green spaces for generations to come. I am a historian who appreciates the “story” the land has to tell. From battlefields to family farms, these open spaces are precious to our history. The staff at LTV make volunteering easy and fun. I have learned so much working with Sally and Kerry and hope to help in any way I can in the future.”

– Suzanne Obetz,
Executive Director, Middleburg Museum

It's your community too. How are you making an impact? Would you like to help? If so, contact Kerry Roszel at Kerry@landtrustva.org or 540-687-8441. Kerry will help plug you in to the right volunteer opportunity.



21ST ANNUAL
Garden Party

A RECORD CROWD TURNED OUT
 TO CELEBRATE CONSERVATION

Hosted by Hickory Tree Hall and Mimi Abel Smith

Conservationists of the Year

LTV presented awards to Harry Atherton and Al Van Huyck.

Harry Atherton is an attorney and farmer who has been an advocate for voluntary and regulatory land conservation for many decades. He served on Fauquier County's Planning Commission for 18 years, was on the County's Board of Supervisors for eight years, serving as Chair for three. During his tenure, Fauquier County adopted sliding scale zoning, created a Purchase of Development Rights program, and became a holder of conservation easements. Fauquier's PDR program is considered the best in the state and Fauquier County has the highest number of privately protected properties, and the highest percentage of privately protected land, of any county in Virginia. Harry also served on the Board of Directors of the Virginia Outdoors Foundation. We owe a lot of land protection to the wonderful work of Harry Atherton.

Al Van Huyck has worked for 30 years to balance Loudoun's incredibly rapid growth with the protection of the County's open space. Al was chairman of Loudoun's Planning Commission almost two decades ago when it revised the County's comprehensive plan and has been a tireless advocate in the struggle to protect the County's remaining open space. Al co-founded the Loudoun County Preservation and Conservation Coalition and was named Loudoun County's Preservationist of the Year in 2013. He was also named a Mosby Heritage Area Association Heritage Hero in 2016. Al's efforts to conserve the County's natural and cultural resources were recognized when he was inducted as a Loudoun Laureate, one of only 24 people to have ever been so honored. LTV honors Al Van Huyck for his dedication to conservation.

For their many years of service to their respective counties, and especially for their contributions to land conservation in an area of Virginia that has been highly vulnerable to development, the Land Trust of Virginia was pleased to present our Conservationist of the Year Award to Harry Atherton and Al Van Huyck.



Annual "Conservationist of the Year" award winners Alfred Van Huyck (left) and Harry Atherton.



Mimi Abel Smith (center) graciously hosted the event, standing with co-hosts Susan Pope and Joseph Gargan.



Donna Rogers and Childs Burden (Andy Garrett in back)



Lilla Ohrstrom (left) with "Painting for Preservation" Artist, Helen Matheson Hilliard.



“Stewards of the Year” award winners, Carole and Stephen Napolitano



Colin Rosse, Montebello Rosse Trust, annual “Landowner of the Year” award winner.



Annual “Landowner of the Year” Rosse family members, Lauren Finkbiner, Rob Rosse and Andrea Rosse (left to right)

Steward of the Year Award

Recipients of the Steward of the Year Award were Stephen and Carole Napolitano. Steve and Carole purchased 20 acres north of Round Hill in 1977. Then over the years two additional properties, one 14 acres and the second 26, became available and were slated for development. The Napolitanos purchased these properties and tended to them, cleaning up the health of a pond and ridding them of invasive plants. Then in 2013, they protected the entire 59 acres by donating a conservation easement to LTV. For their proactive approach to protecting their property, LTV was pleased to present to Steve and Carole Napolitano the Steward of the Year Award.

Landowner of the Year Award

In 2018 the Rosse Family Trust donated a conservation easement on Montebello, their family’s 543-acre property in Orange County. Montebello has been in the Rosse family for many generations. It is a resource rich property that contains more than 200 acres of prime farmland soils and soils of statewide significance. Montebello also has 325 acres of forests, 11 acres of wetlands and a perennial stream that runs through it for almost a mile. The property could have been subdivided into more than 250 building lots but thanks to the Rosse Family, Montebello, its history and natural resources are now protected forever.

A Special Thank You

In 2019 a record crowd of 450 people came out to celebrate and support the Land Trust of Virginia’s conservation work, and to honor our Annual Award Winners and the landowners who have placed their properties in conservation easement. The success of the day was only possible due to the work and contributions of many wonderful people.



Anna Dees (left) and Rab Finley Thompson



Party guests Stephanie and Joe Spytke.



Spectacular flowers by designer Barbara Sharp.

LOOKING OUT FOR TOMORROW, WITH A PLANNED GIFT TODAY

Do you see and feel the changes happening all around us? Each day more and more of our land, our open spaces, our wildlife habitat, are disappearing. Our forests are being cut down, the strain on our water resources is increasing, and our children are bombarded by technology while they desperately need connections to nature. With all of these pressures facing rural Virginia, are you looking ahead and wondering, “What will Virginia look like decades from now?”

Thankfully, you have the ability to make a difference for the future. You can make a greater impact that goes beyond your lifetime, with a gift through your will or trust.

Perhaps you feel that you don’t have “that kind of money,” or “that much land.” Or maybe you don’t know where to start.

The good news is that it is easy to start a conversation about your vision for the future and how conservation can help. For a confidential conversation related to planned giving options that include gifts of land, naming LTV in your will, trust, or other estate plan, please contact Sally Price at 540-687-8441 or at sally@landtrustva.org. We would love to hear your passion for conservation and how you want to help.

If you have already included us in your estate plans, please let us know so we can thank you for your generosity.

MEMBERS OF THE LEGACY GIVING FUND

Steffanie Burgevin

Joseph A. Miller

Christopher C. Dematatis

Kathleen Ribaud *

Andrew S. Garrett

James E. Rich

STEFFANIE BURGEVIN TELLS US WHY



Leaving a legacy gift is a way to honor an organization that maintains its mission and meets goals successfully, but it also is a means to honor a personal connection. I have been closely involved with the people of LTV, from board members, conservation donors, volunteers, and the many supporters for a number of years. I have enjoyed the experience with this organization because we all share the passion for open space. Growing up in a rural area, I came to appreciate nature to its fullest. My happiest moments in life are when I am at peace with nature, whether outdoors, or even having coffee on a chilly morning viewing the mountains. I know how fragile our Earth has become over the decades of continuous population growth. I have seen the paving over of crop fields, building of too many houses on small lots, the enormous strain on our water supply, the pollution of the air and water we depend on, the disregard for history, ever more deadly weather related events, and devastating floods. Our little portion of the planet is uniquely beautiful, with many natural resources. Fortunately there are many people in the area who care passionately to help save it from bulldozers. I want to help the Land Trust of Virginia continue to protect our beautiful state long into the future.

PEDDLING FOR PRESERVATION

Last September, 187 people showed up on a glorious morning to ride one of two routes, 20-mile or 62-mile, that traversed mostly gravel roads, including through several private properties in conservation easement, in Loudoun and Fauquier Counties. They even paid to have the fun and 100% of their registration fees went to conservation because several others had sponsored the event, covering all of LTV's costs.

Sally Price, LTV's executive director, informed the group that the area doesn't look like this by happenstance but because families are putting their properties into conservation easement, hence says Sally, "We call the event Tour de Conservation Easement."

Event organizers Michael Catlett and Jared Nieters, of Haymarket Bicycles, are avid cyclists and want to help keep our rural roads unpaved. They were happy with the turnout and look forward to even more coming out in support and to ride in the event on September 26, 2020.

Special thanks to the owners of Foxmount Farm, Smitten Farm, Stoke Farm, and Ayrshire Farm.

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Our work would not be possible without the generous support of all the people listed on the following pages. Together, we are conserving the spaces we all love. A special thank you to our 2019 supporters!

This year, for the first time, we are recognizing those people who have given consecutively for * five or more years and ** for 10 or more years.

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2019 GIFTS IN MEMORY OF NATHANIEL MORISON

Nathaniel Holmes Morison III, 83 of Welbourne, Middleburg, VA, died peacefully at home on October 10th surrounded by his family and his beloved dogs. Nat permanently protected Welbourne many years ago by putting its 500+ acres into conservation easement with the Virginia Outdoors Foundation. He was an ardent advocate of conservation and preservation and as a result the Land Trust of Virginia received 43 gifts in his memory. We were and remain overwhelmed with appreciation. There will never be anyone else quite like Nat.

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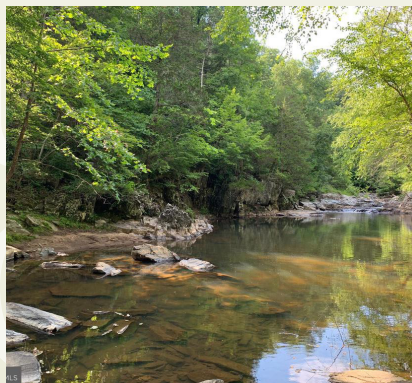
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Link to realtor listing: <http://frankly.com/VAST215274>



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