

Nature and historical walks in Greensboro

Last August, the joint GLT/Greensboro Historical Society committee on the Hinman Settler Road recruited 23 Greensboroites to walk the 2.5 miles of the old road between the Freeman farm and Hinman Road in Glover. The Greensboro segment had been newly rehabilitated by the Freemans.

Other attractive walks in Greensboro include the Barr Hill, Porter Brook and Long Pond Nature Trails. GLT plans to lead a Long Pond hike this summer, tentatively scheduled for August 16th. Eventually, we hope to put together a brochure on the options available to eager hikers.

Town appropriates another \$2,000 for Greensboro Conservation Fund

The annual Greensboro Town Meeting, held on March 7th, 2006, appropriated another \$2,000 for the Town of Greensboro Conservation Fund established at the 2004 Town Meeting. The Fund is administered by the Conservation Commission (GCC), which unlike GLT, a voluntary non-profit organization, is an arm of the town government, established under Vermont law, whose members are appointed by the Selectboard.

The GCC chair is Aaron Kromash. Members are Clive and Phil Gray, Erika and Josh Karp, and Mark McGrath.

“Buy Locally”

With the help of a grant from the Association of Vermont Conservation Commissions and legwork by Sterling College staff and students, the Greensboro Conservation Commission is producing a brochure promoting food and other products of local farms and other growers. The brochure will be distributed to local and seasonal residents during summer 2006.

Detour through Greensboro Green

To facilitate reconstruction of the bridge over the Caspian outlet between Willey's Store and The Miller's Thumb, the Town plans to close that segment of Breezy Ave. and route traffic through a temporary bypass over the Greensboro Green between The Bend Road and the Greensboro Garage. The Town hopes to begin work in September. By next spring the Green is to be restored and its hayfield drained and upgraded.



Jane Gardner and Allen Davis at Horse Pond
Easements *Continued from page 1*

The property was once owned by the grandfather of Tracy St. Louis of North Country Tree Care, who retained for his family a one-acre enclave on the ridge overlooking Horse Pond, featuring a spectacular rock formation. Tracy and his wife Elizabeth sold an easement on that parcel to the GLT, ensuring its protection in perpetuity along with Dr. Sullivan's surrounding forest.

Andy Skinner, a former part-time resident of Greensboro, covered over half the GLT's out-of-pocket costs for the two easements, including two \$3,000 allocations to our Stewardship Endowment. Andy made the donation in memory of his wife Judith, a former GLT board member and lifelong crusader for protection of the natural environment in New England.

Barr Hill

The ex-Ronna Gray property, 20.6 acres of hayfield, pasture and forest, adjoins David and Andrea Perham's homestead, the next-to-last house on Barr Hill Road en route to the Barr Hill Nature Preserve. In December, Ronna completed a bargain sale to the GLT, in which she generously donated most of the value of a conservation easement. The parcel adjoins land on which Mark and Mary McGrath donated an easement in 2004. The Perhams, who subsequently purchased Ronna's property, agreed to the easement, which allows no residential development.

In 1973 Sherry Gray built a dugout on the hill behind the Perhams and lived in it for 20 years before building a small cottage. Following Sherry's death in November 2004, his family donated to the GLT an easement on his 15 acres in April 2006. Bob and Sue Goodby, who are arranging to purchase the property, agreed to the easement, which allows for one single-family residence.

Cook's Hill

The easement on 160 acres donated by the Edsall family in 1995 allowed limited subdivision of the property. Last year David and Nicholas Edsall sold a ten-acre lot to their cousins, Thomas and Mary Edsall, who plan to build a single-family residence on it. The ten-acre parcel becomes the GLT's 14th easement, although total conserved land remains unchanged.



Greensboro Land Trust Newsletter

No. 11

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VLT president Darby Bradley to address GLT's 2006 annual meeting

Everyone is invited to our Annual Meeting on Monday, July 31, at 7:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Darby Bradley, president of the Vermont Land Trust and a long-standing friend of GLT, will talk about "The History and Future of Vermont's Landscape." GLT members who have heard Darby talk about these issues give rave reviews.

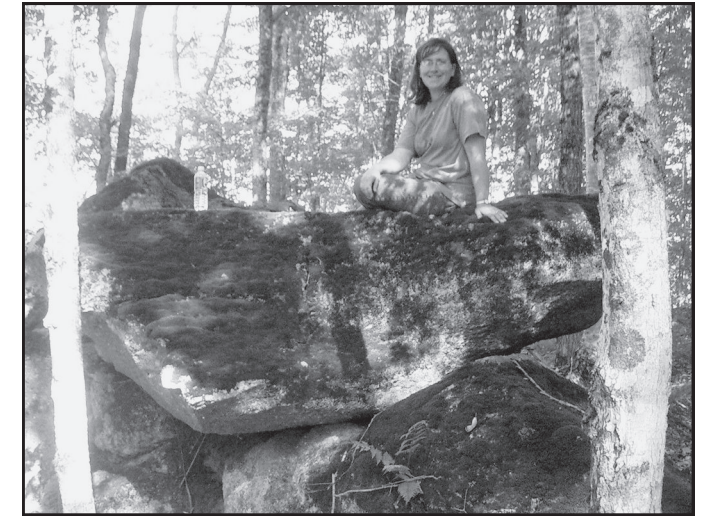
Play based on life & work of Rachel Carson, July 8

On Saturday, July 8, noted actress Kaiulani Lee will present a one-woman play based on the life and work of Rachel Carson. The site is the Greensboro United Church sanctuary, time 7:30 p.m., admission \$6, additional contributions welcome. GLT is co-sponsoring this event with the Green Mountain Monastery, Greensboro Conservation Commission, United Church of Christ and Friends of the Greensboro Free Library. Ms. Lee's performance has been widely praised as embodying the spirit of a woman whom many consider the founder of the modern environmental movement.

GLT website up & running

Greensboro Land Trust's scenic Internet web site, www.Greensborolandtrust.org went online in August 2005. It includes pages on GLT's overview & history, Conserving Your Land, GLT projects, the latest map of conserved land in Greensboro, and GLT finances. If you have any questions, contact us from the website.

Also see our link to Keeping Track Inc. Members of our KT committee monitor quarterly two transects in North Greensboro, which the group believes form part of an important corridor for wild animals. They then submit reports to KT headquarters in Huntington to be coordinated with other Vermont reports.



Liz on the St. Louis rocking rock.

Photos courtesy of Clive Gray

GLT acquires five conservation easements

The GLT has had an active year since distributing our 2005 newsletter. In late 2005 we acquired two new easements at Horse Pond, one on the lower reaches of Barr Hill, and one carved out of the previously conserved Edsall property on Cook's Hill. A second easement on Barr Hill was conveyed in April 2006.

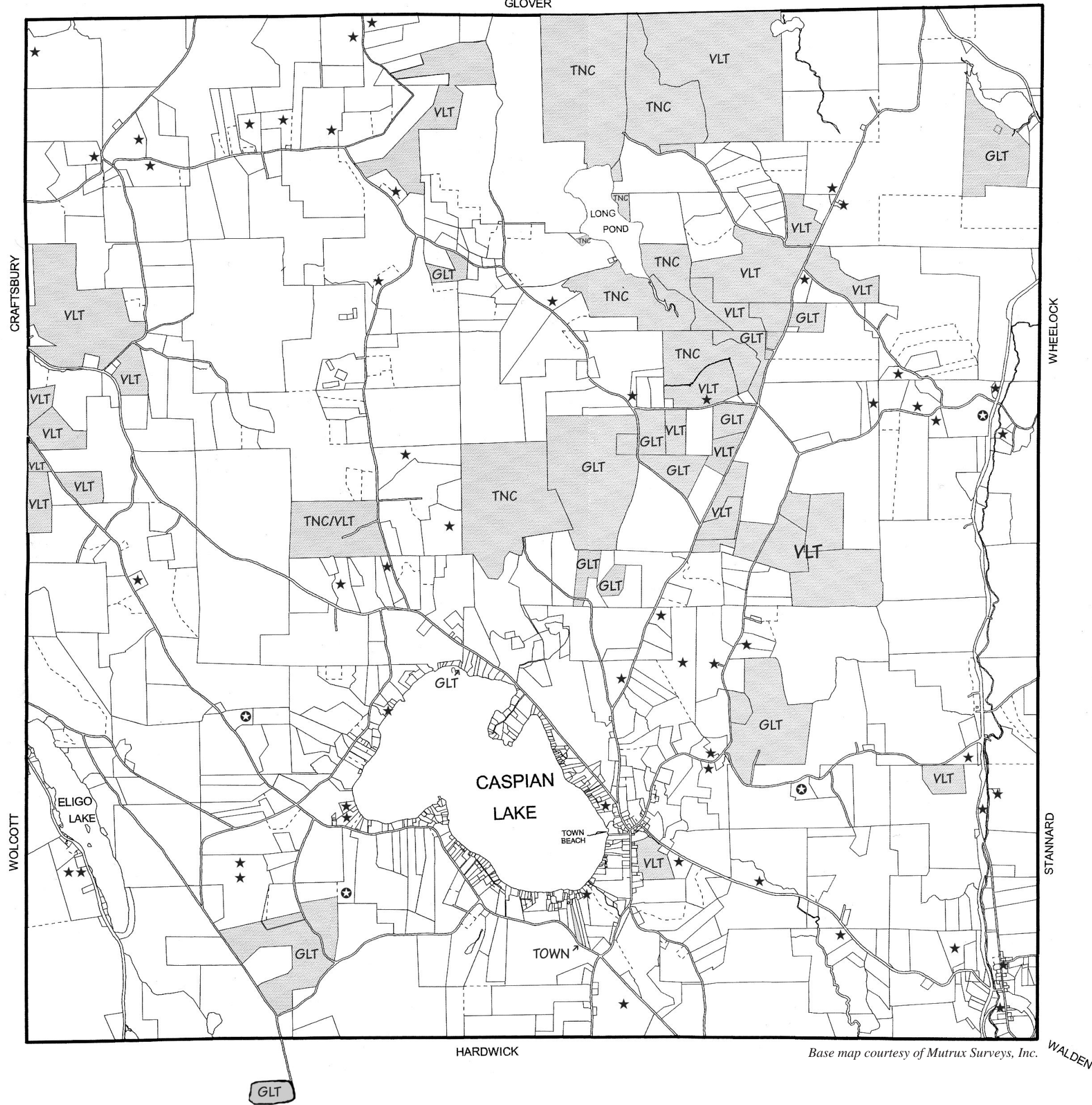
Horse Pond

Generous donations by Dr. Tom Sullivan of Etna, NH, Andy Skinner of Marblehead, MA, and others made possible the easements on Horse Pond. You pass the pond on your left as you leave Greensboro on Route 16 north towards Glover and Barton. In December, Dr. Sullivan donated to the GLT nearly the entire value of an easement on his 113.8-acre property covering the western shore of the pond and a sizable chunk of hinterland.

The easement allows for one single-family residence near the old Turcott farmstead. Apart from two acres of open land in that area, the property is largely wooded and has been logged in recent years under a forest management plan.

Continued on page 4

GLOVER



Base map courtesy of Mutrux Surveys, Inc.

About GLT

The GLT is a partnership of Greensboro area people working together to ensure that, as Vermont steadily changes, important land in Greensboro is not lost to development forever. We help farm families conserve productive agricultural land for future generations, preserving not only our heritage but also our economic future. We protect forestland that supports a healthy wood products industry and sustains habitat critical for black bear, songbirds, deer, and other wildlife. We help to permanently protect irreplaceable fields, woods, and shoreline in Greensboro essential for recreation and scenic enjoyment. All this is done while recognizing the need for town planning that allocates portions of the landscape to residential and commercial uses.

Conserving your land

Using legal tools called "conservation easements" or "grants of development rights," we help landowners to voluntarily limit development while keeping the land open for forestry, farming, and recreation. The property remains in private ownership with the peace of mind that it is protected now and forever. The landowner decides whether to allow public access.

Easement donations qualify as charitable contributions for federal income and estate tax purposes, but do not necessarily reduce property taxes.

We work with landowners who love their land and want to see it conserved. The GLT buys and accepts gifts of development rights. Sometimes we share a project with

the Vermont Land Trust, which receives funding from The Vermont Housing and Conservation Board, the Freeman Foundation, and private donors. But mainly we rely on funds raised from residents and friends of Greensboro.

We talk regularly with potential conservators, and incur expenses for appraisals, surveys, purchase of easements, and monitoring. You can help by sending your tax-deductible contribution to **GLT, PO Box 135, Greensboro, VT 05841**. Feel free to call any trustee or Advisory Committee member with questions.

GLT Trustees

Mike Cassidy	James Cook
Jane Gardner	Betsy Getsinger-Donlon
Clive Gray	Phil Gray
Ercel Harvey	Nancy Hill
Jennifer Lucas	Clark Maser
Mark McGrath	Rolf Muentner
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Advisory Committee

David Allen	Nancy Lammert
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Town of Greensboro, VT

Our map of Greensboro illustrates the lands conserved by the Greensboro Land Trust, The Nature Conservancy, the Vermont Land Trust, and the Town of Greensboro. It shows all residences constructed in the past ten years and highlights four constructed in the past year (denoted by J).

Map key

Conserved areas, shaded green, comprise the following 31 parcels. Total conserved area amounts to 5.7 square miles, or 15.5% of total town area of 36.7 square miles.

1. GLT's 14 easements, totaling 920 acres: Barton/Folino, Buckley, Edsall (2 easements), Goodby, Brian & Denise Hill, Lewis & Nancy Hill, McGrath, Meyer, Perham, Pinkney, St. Louis, Sullivan, and von Hessert.
2. Long Pond Natural Area (767 acres) and Barr Hill Nature Preserve (254 acres), owned by The Nature Conservancy (TNC).
3. 30 acre "Greensboro Green", 362 acre ex-Murdock property on Glover town line, and 30 acre ex-Brassknocker parcel on Craftsbury Road, owned by Vermont Land Trust (VLT).
4. Three VLT easements to which GLT contributed: the York beefalo farm (260 acres); Brian & Denise Hill farm (73 acres); and Murdock homestead (150 acres).
5. Eight other VLT easements: Shatney farm (313 acres); Shatney hayfield in Greensboro Bend (34 acres); York homestead (85 acres); and five ex-Brassknocker parcels on Craftsbury town line, totaling 323 acres.
6. Barton Homestead Trust on Gebbie Road (VLT and TNC—121 acres); and
7. 3.5 acre strip on Lake Shore Rd., owned by Town of Greensboro.

 **CONSERVED LAND**

 **RESIDENCE CONSTRUCTED IN PAST 10 YEARS**