

## GLT assumes management role on Greensboro Green

In 1973 a group of Greensboro residents bought the 30-acre Greensboro Green, behind Lauredon Apartments, the firehouse, etc., as a major contribution to preserving Greensboro's rural character. Ownership was initially lodged with the Fairbanks Museum of St. Johnsbury. With the advent of the Ottauquechee Land Trust (OLT) in the 1980s, the Museum passed ownership on to it. The OLT was succeeded by the Vermont Land Trust, which continues to own the parcel and holds a perpetual conservation easement on it.

On March 5, 2007, VLT signed an agreement with the GLT under which we will advise the state-wide organization on matters such as arranging for the Green to be hayed. For this purpose the GLT has established a standing Greensboro Green Committee as a joint body with the Greensboro Green Contributors Committee (GGCC), successor to the original committee of donors. The joint committee is chaired by Nancy Sullivan, long-standing chair of the GGCC.

## Nature hikes in 2006 & 2007, trail named for Rolf Muentner



*Blueberry Rocks, Long Pond—some of 30+ Greensboroites on GLT-led hike*

On August 16, 2006, over thirty Greensboro residents took part in a three-hour hike along Tamarack Ranch Road into Long Pond, sponsored by the GLT (see above photo).

This June we will walk a trail to Long Pond's north end, naming it for our dedicated volunteer and Monitoring Committee co-chair, Rolf Muentner. Using his architect's talents, Rolf has put together handsome baseline documentation reports for our latest easements

## GLT establishes social affairs committee

In 2006 the GLT established a standing committee to explore the social aspects of land conservation and affordable housing. It will also look at sustainable agriculture. Committee chair is Sally Lonegren.

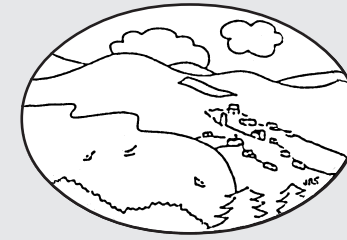
## Town appropriates another \$2,000 for Greensboro Conservation Fund

The annual Greensboro Town Meeting, held on March 6th, 2007, appropriated another \$2,000 for the Town of Greensboro Conservation Fund established in 2004. The purpose of the Fund, now totaling \$8,000, is to support worthwhile conservation projects whose other funders seek participation by town government. 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 Elizabeth Metraux. Other members are Clive and Phil Gray, Erika and Josh Karp, Aaron Kromash, Mark McGrath and David Metraux.

## 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.



# Greensboro Land Trust Newsletter

No. 12

Visit our website at [www.greensborolandtrust.org](http://www.greensborolandtrust.org)

2007

## VT Senate president pro tem. Peter Shumlin to address GLT 2007 meeting

Everyone is invited to our Annual Meeting on **Monday, July 16, at 7:30 p.m.** in Fellowship Hall. Vermont Senate president pro tem Peter Shumlin will discuss ways in which Vermont can lead the nation in addressing environmental challenges. Sen. Shumlin has spoken frequently on this topic, stressing implications of global warming for Vermont's future.



*Senator Peter Shumlin*

## Citizens of Greensboro & neighboring towns form regional land trust

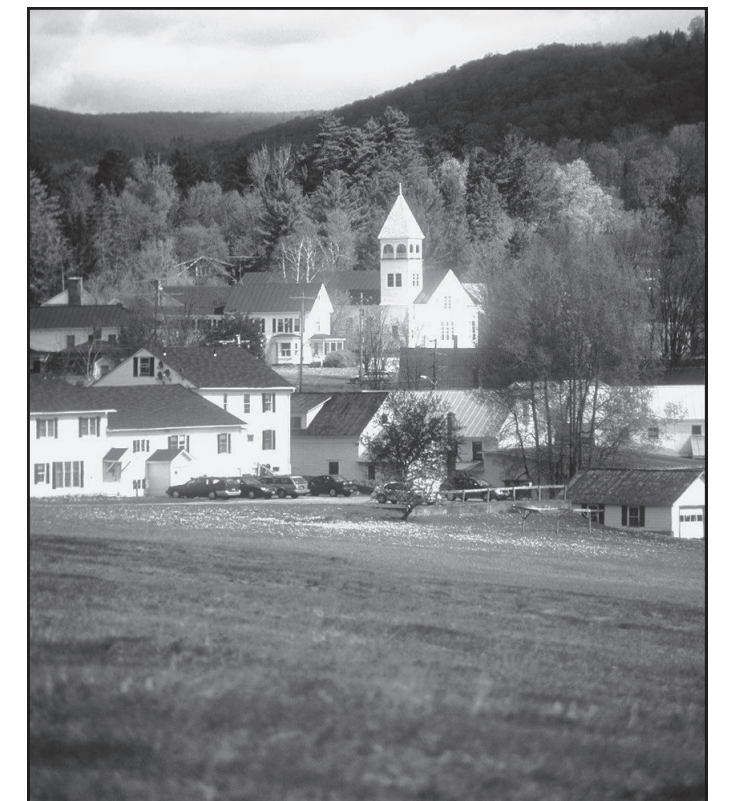
After a year of preparatory meetings in Craftsbury and Greensboro, the **Northern Rivers Land Trust** was incorporated in December. The NRLT has brought together citizens from our two towns and five others – Elmore, Hardwick, Walden, Wolcott and Woodbury– to promote conservation in the region.

The founders judged that a regional initiative suited Greensboro's neighbors better than formation of individual town bodies. The GLT will continue to operate as the sole town land trust in the region, cooperating closely with the NRLT in areas of common interest such as Bridgman Hill Road.

Once the NRLT is in full operation and is awarded tax-exempt status by the Internal Revenue Service, the GLT plans to transfer its conservation easement on a 21-acre hayfield on the road's Hardwick segment. Paul Cillo of Hardwick has offered the NRLT a new easement on another Bridgman Hill parcel, which is expected to form the NRLT's first project.

The NRLT's inaugural meeting in Hardwick on February 18 featured an address by Jeanie McIntyre, president of the Upper (Connecticut) Valley Land Trust, based in Hanover, NH. Jeanie urged members to aspire towards building a professional organization with full-time staff.

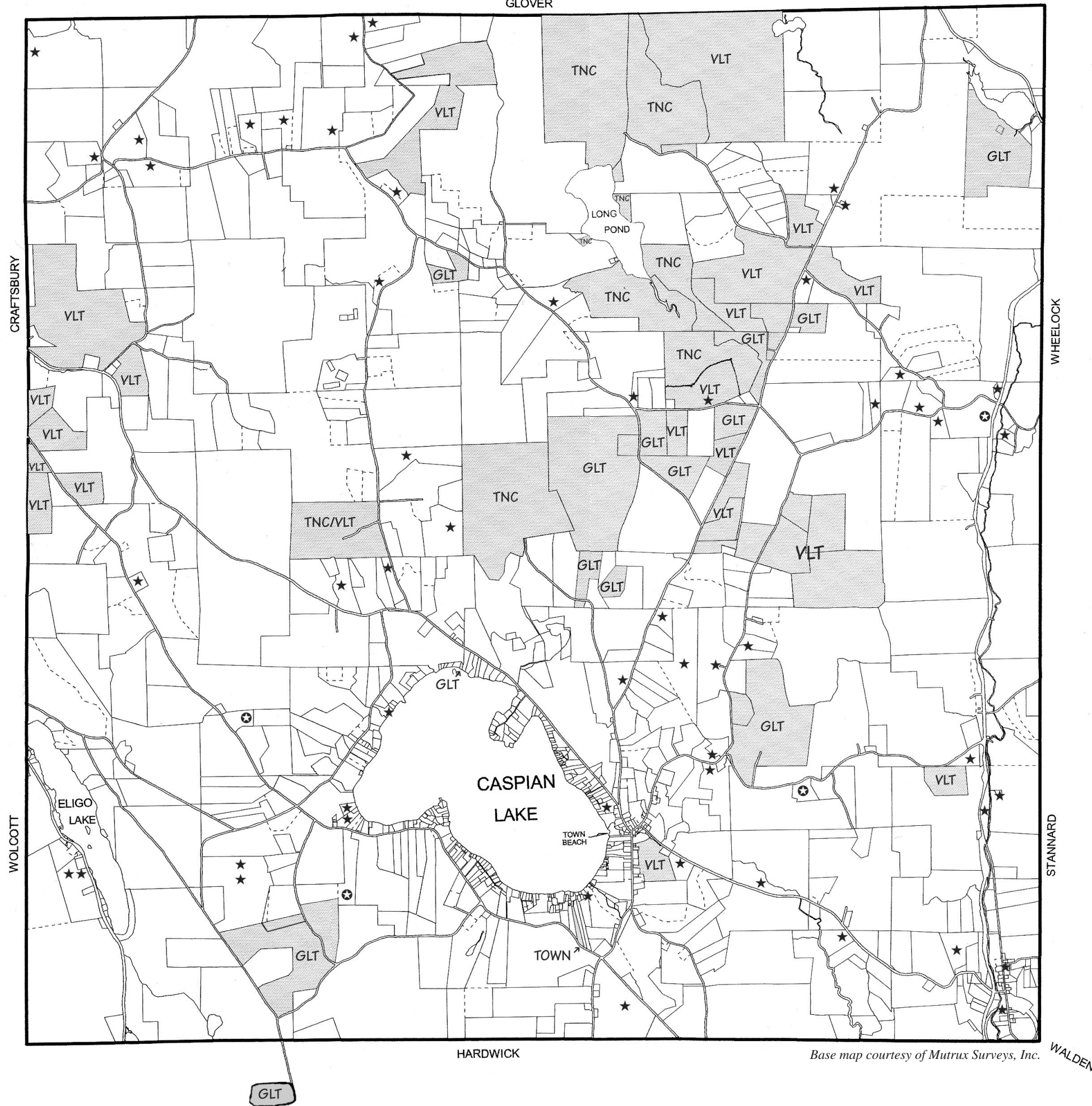
The membership then elected 12 trustees, based in all seven participating towns. The trustees in turn elected Jad Daley of Hardwick as president, Steve Young of Wolcott as vice-president, Zarina O'Hagin of Walden as secretary, and Ann Ingerson of Craftsbury as treasurer.



*Looking north from Greensboro Green [see page 4]  
(Photo by Jay Ericson)*



GLOVER



## A New Way to Donate to GLT and Not Pay Income Tax on Your IRA Withdrawal

For those lucky enough to be over 70½, you can have your donation transferred directly from your IRA to the GLT and deduct it from taxable IRA income. Although the transfer brings no charitable deduction, it might benefit taxpayers whose adjusted gross income (AGI) causes them to pay tax on Social Security, loose deductions or exemptions, or incur the Alternative Minimum Tax.

The Pension Protection Act of 2006 raised the maximum deduction for conservation easements from 30% of AGI to 50% (farmers can deduct 100%), allowing it to be carried forward for 15 years.

Both the IRA and PPA provisions will expire at the end of 2007 unless extended by Congress.

### 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. Our website, [www.greensborolandtrust.org](http://www.greensborolandtrust.org), provides details and photos of conserved land, along with GLT’s annual financial report.

### GLT Trustees

Mike Cassidy	Jane Gardner
Betsy Getsinger-Donlon	Clive Gray, chair
Phil Gray	Ercel Harvey
Nancy Hill	
Jennifer Lucas	Clark Maser
Mark McGrath	
Rolf Muentner	Lacey Smith
David Stoner	
Claudia York	Wayne Young

### GLT Advisory Committee

Joan Barton	John Downing	Stephanie Herrick
Niall Kirkwood	Nancy Lammert	
Sally Lonegren	Anne Pinkney	Jon Ramsay
Nat Smith	Nancy Sullivan	Sr. Gail Worcelo

### 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 five 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, Shaun & Darren Hill, Lewis & Nancy Hill, McGrath, Meyer, Perham, Pinkney, St. Louis, Dean, and von Hessert/Kehler.
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); Shaun & Darren 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

... IN 2006