



# Natural Surroundings

WYNDHAM LAND TRUST, INC. • SINCE 1975

Conserving the Natural Resources of Northeastern Connecticut April 2012

## About The Wyndham Land Trust

The Wyndham Land Trust, Inc. is engaged in the preservation of natural resources in Windham County, Connecticut. Its emphasis is on wild-life habitat, especially where unique or particularly fragile assemblages of animals and plants exist or may be expected to exist. Its properties are open to the public for the quiet enjoyment of nature. Land may be acquired by donation or purchase. Since WLT enjoys 501 (c) 3 status donations to it are deductible under IRS rules, a feature which sometimes proves attractive! Our work is supported by dues, donations, grants and a very modest endowment income. Members enjoy an annual potluck supper, generally in the fall.

*Inquiries may be directed to the*  
**Wyndham Land Trust, Inc.,**  
**PO Box 302**  
**Pomfret Center, CT, 06259**  
**or to [info@wyndhamlandtrust.org](mailto:info@wyndhamlandtrust.org)**  
*Please see our web site*  
**[www.wyndhamlandtrust.org](http://www.wyndhamlandtrust.org)**  
**Phone (860) 963-2090.**  
**Your comments, questions and suggestions are most welcome.**

## We Seek To Increase Our Membership Base

Presently annual dues are:

- INDIVIDUAL \$20
- FAMILY \$30

### LIFE MEMBERSHIP

- \$300 INDIVIDUAL
- \$500 FAMILY

We now accept 

**DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE UNDER IRS RULES**



**Dr. Richard Booth** addresses the Wyndham Land Trust membership at the annual Pot Luck Supper, hosted by Hadi and Cheryl Bozorgmanesh in Brooklyn. Dick will serve as President Emeritus and Trustee, working with 2011-2012 Trustees George Jackson (Secretary/Treasurer), Andrew Rzeznikiewicz, Michael Green, Andrew Tillinghast, Sarah Heminway, Ron Tillen, Jeff Stefanik, Mary Anthony (President), and Ben Williams (Vice-President.)



Chase Reservoir, Killingly - photo by Paul Harrison

## PRESERVE STEWARDS NAMED

In 2012, the Wyndham Land Trust is initiating a formal stewardship and monitoring program. The program enlists volunteer "guardians" for each preserve. These guardians are responsible for walking the boundaries and trails at least once a year and filing a report with the land trust. We are grateful to the following people who have volunteered so far to monitor our preserves:

**In Hampton:** Marcia and Wyane Kilpatrick. **In Killingly:** Dr. Carol Auer, Michael Green and Paul Gazzola. **In Pomfret:** Bruce Langlois, Fran Baranski, Nate Rosebrooks, John Folsom, Brian Jessurun, Kevin and Michelle Benton, Tom McGrath and Marie Santi, Jack Anthony, Christ Church J2A, Pomfret Horse and Trail, Penny Foisey, and Dr. Elizabeth Norris.

**In Eastford:** Jo-Ann MacFarlane. **In Canterbury:** Dr. Richard Booth.

**In Plainfield:** Ray Helie. **In Putnam:** Ron Tillen and Dr. Robert Craig.

**In Brooklyn:** Jeff Page. **In Thompson:** Charlie Obert, Joe Suich, David Ostrowski, Al and Lynn Landry, Roman Jamieson, Mary Sharkey and Bernie Davis. **In Woodstock:** Jeff Stefanik, Paula Coughlin, Maura Robie, Pam Bouchard. Ken Rapoport, Will Kirk, Paul and Joyce Larson.

*If you are interested in being a steward, please contact Andy Rzeznikiewicz at 860-428-0968.*



**Jen Postemski**, UConn '12, completed an internship at the Wyndham Land Trust in January, during which she created property binders for each WLT preserve. These binders contain all of the needed background information on each preserve including deeds, maps, and photographs. Not only is this an important upgrade in our record keeping, but it also provides needed data for our new stewardship/monitoring program.



Brad Crisman filming board member Ben Williams for the **Wyndham Land Trust Intro Video** (found on YouTube, Facebook and our website.) The video includes interviews with land donors Ted Gellert of Pomfret, Avis Spaulding of Woodstock, Ken Rapoport of Woodstock, and Jo-Ann MacFarlane of Eastford.



Our sincere thanks to the wonderful kids from Christ Church Pomfret, who spent several hours cleaning up the Duck Marsh Preserve with their capable advisors.



Dr. James Dean tending his bee hives at the cleaned up Duck Marsh Preserve.



Tucker Preserve, Pomfret - photo by Paul Harrison

A big thank you to volunteer **Mary Albro** of Pomfret for helping update the WLT database and bookkeeping, as well as helping with the big annual dues and membership mailing in February. We greatly appreciate it!





Lyon Preserve, Pomfret photo by Paul Harrison

## SARANTOPOULOS PRESERVE



**Jo-Ann MacFarlane** of Eastford recently donated 25 acres of forest and farmland to the Wyndham Land Trust for protection in perpetuity. The property abuts Natchaug State Forest and has been in her family for three generations, since her Scottish grandfather bought the land in 1935. The land will continue to be farmed, as it always has been, by a local farmer.



Scarlet Tanager

Working the Town of Pomfret, the Wyndham Land Trust purchased the conservation easement on forty-three acres of forestland east of Wright's Crossing Road belonging to **Christian and Rachel Sarantopoulos**. The preserve is an important connector between CT Audubon Society land and Natchaug State Forest. The property is especially appreciated by the Pomfret Horse and Trail riders who are in the process of turning old logging roads into trails. Likewise, birders and naturalist welcome the access to explore forest and swampland habitat to find species such as scarlet tanagers and Canada warblers.

## Rapoport, Spaulding Team Up To Expand Woodstock Preserve

**Ken Rapoport** and **Avis Spaulding** of Woodstock have been working together successfully to protect a substantial property in Woodstock. Ken donated 46 acres originally, then added 12 additional acres. The resulting 58-acre preserve is named in honor of his late wife, Linda. Working with his neighbor Avis Spaulding, a long-time resident of Woodstock, he protected another 37 contiguous acres. In December of 2011 a fourth transaction, a thirteen-acre donation, brought the total to over 100 acres overall, 58 of which is the Linda J. Rapoport Memorial Preserve, and 50 acres to be named by the Spaulding Family.

## Mission Statement

The mission of the Wyndham Land Trust is to conserve the natural resources of Northeast Connecticut - the water courses, swamps, woodlands, and open spaces, the plant and animal life therein, and the scenic natural and historic sites - all of which are very much a part of the unique character and beauty of all communities in Northeast Connecticut.



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Design of the WLT Newsletter is donated by Jim Tourtellotte - [www.gdpublishing.com](http://www.gdpublishing.com)



**WYNDHAM**  
LAND TRUST, INC.

The Wyndham Land Trust, Inc.  
P.O. Box 302  
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# THANK YOU

## THE WYNDHAM LAND TRUST, INC.

Individual annual membership \$20  
Family annual membership \$30  
Individual life membership \$300  
Family life membership \$500  
Donation to Land Acquisition Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Checks payable to:

WYNDHAM LAND TRUST, INC.

P. O. Box 302

Pomfret Center, CT 06259

*(Gift Memberships Available by Calling: 860-963-2090)*