

Lower Shore Land Connections

A publication of the Lower Shore Land Trust

Connecting Land & People

Summer/Fall 2022



Our Mission: Lower Shore Land Trust protects and restores natural resources, wildlife habitat and working lands to support and connect healthy and vibrant communities.



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Katerina Whitman - Chesapeake
Conservation Corps



Lower Shore Land Trust
100 River Street
Snow Hill, MD 21863
www.lowershorelandtrust.org

Director's Notes

What is your most favorite place to be outside? Is it walking on a trail or being by the water? In the woods or sitting on the beach? Today I am thinking about the places we have protected that are enjoyed by thousands of people every year. I think of the route that the Seagull Century riders travel, where bicyclists stream through the coastal landscape, a rich tapestry of farms and forests, intersected by creeks and rivers, and bound by the bay and the ocean. Much of the landscape is preserved because of people like you supporting our work to conserve these special places.



I'm also thinking about monarch butterflies. The monarch butterfly (*Danaus plexippus*) was recently added to the international threatened species list by the International Union for Conservation of Nature. The US Fish and Wildlife Service, which helps to implement the Endangered Species Act, has listed the monarch as a candidate for inclusion on its list of endangered and threatened wildlife since December of 2020. Can we work together fast enough so that we can still marvel at their miraculous journey to Mexico every winter? Will we let the monarchs disappear under our watch?

So many of you have supported our native plant sale every year and you have planted milkweed, among other native plants, that benefit many of our important pollinators and wildlife – thank you! With determination, we have a chance to restore enough meadows and wetlands to support the monarch butterflies and other species like the northern bobwhite (*Colinus virginianus*). We can turn more lawn and turf into meadows, and we can conserve the large landscapes that provide connectivity for wildlife to survive.

When we lose land, we lose more than the farm. We lose populations like the bobwhite quail which have essentially been lost to the states north of us and are struggling to hold on here in Maryland. We're working with Washington College and the Natural Lands Project, and landowners who are committed to restoring grassland habitat for quail. Through this work, we hope the next generation will hear the "Bobwhite! Bobwhite!" ring out as a covey is flushed again.

You are receiving the newsletter because you have supported our work in the past. I hope you find the information interesting, inspiring, thoughtful, and useful! In this issue, we'll recap the pollinator garden tour and the bird conservation series. We will also share highlights from the St. Alban's ribbon cutting and progress from the meadow installation. And we'll look at upcoming events like our River Rally to celebrate World River Day.

Thanks for all you do every day to make a difference. I hope to see you at one of our upcoming events or on the trail.

Kate Patton

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Cover photo courtesy of Dan Small, Natural Lands Project Coordinator
Center for Environment & Society, Washington College

William Clift Rowland, Jr. (1941 - 2021)



It was at a stewardship visit when I first met Bill Rowland. Shortly after 2006, when I began my tenure at Lower Shore Land Trust, I had been making my rounds and introducing myself to the easement grantors. I must have done or said something right that day when we drove around his property in an old truck. From that time forward, Bill supported the land trust by showing up at events and he always had a hunting story or question about wildlife.

William Clift Rowland, Jr. Passed away December 27, 2021, due to complications with Parkinson's Disease. Bill is remembered by friends as being an avid outdoorsman, and he spent countless hours hunting and enhancing habitat for wildlife on his farm.

Looking back over the past 15 years, I'm grateful to have known Bill, and to have walked with him on his property. When I spoke with him, he was always quick to point out a flushed up black duck (*Anas rubripes*) from the creek, or point out damage by snow geese (*Anser caerulescens*) to the marsh. He also raised quail and brought several to one of our events years ago. I like to think he will be watching our work from some great duck blind in the sky.

Progress with One Water Partnership

On June 29, we held a great event and ribbon cutting of the recently established pollinator meadow at St. Alban's Episcopal Church in Salisbury, MD. Thank you to St. Alban's for your dedicated partnership! We're grateful to Salisbury Mayor Day and Sustainability Officer Alyssa Hastings for supporting our project in partnership with One Water Partnership and Interfaith Partners for the Chesapeake through the Chesapeake Bay Trust Outreach and Restoration program.

Pollinator meadows provide critical habitat, diversify landscapes, and provide beautiful spaces buzzing with life. LSLT is devoted to going beyond traditional lawn and creating more and more of these pollinator friendly landscapes. We can't do it without these critical partnerships.



Ribbon cutting at St. Albans pollinator meadow with Mayor Jake Day and Restoration Manager Suzanne Ketcham front and center. Photos from Allison Foster, Salisbury Media and Events Specialist

Flannel Formal Returns to Brooklyn Meadows!



SAVE THE Date!

FLANNEL FORMAL

A benefit for Lower Shore Land Trust
Saturday, November 12

3:00 - 6:00 pm *\$75 per person!*

Oysters ~ Charcuterie
Pig Roast
Signature Cocktail ~ Wine ~ Beer
Live Music ~ Silent Auction
Stephen Parker Legacy Award

To be held at Brooklyn Meadows
10442 Brooklyn Lane | Berlin, Maryland 21811

<https://lower-shore-land-trust.networkforgood.com/events/45623-2022-flannel-formal>

NOVEMBER

12



When: November 12, 2022

Where: The Manor at Brooklyn Meadows
10442 Katelyn Lane, Berlin, MD

Cost: \$75/ticket

Join us for the fall event of the season!

Committee Members

Tracy Causey-Jeffery, Chair

JL Cropper ~ Becky Miles ~ Suzy Taylor

Robin Tomaselli ~ Shae Von Marsh

Jennifer Merritt ~ Kate Patton

Sponsorship opportunities available!

Meet this year's Chesapeake Conservation Corps Members!



Kacie Larsen

During her placement at Lower Shore Land Trust, Kacie will serve as an Outreach Coordinator and support education, outreach, and communications for restoration and land protection activities. She will participate in various restoration activities, including pollinator meadows and rain barrel workshops. Kacie holds a degree in Environmental and Sustainability Studies from University of Utah. She is particularly interested in marine conservation and has spent time in Greece conducting marine mammal research. Kacie is also a certified open water SCUBA instructor.

Katerina Whitman

Katerina studied Environmental and Natural Resources with a concentration in Conservation Biology at Clemson University. She is particularly passionate about climate change and its impact on wildlife behavior and habitats. While at Lower Shore Land Trust this year, Katerina will serve as the Restoration Coordinator. She will work on habitat and water quality projects ranging from residential scale, congregation lands, and larger landscape-scale projects. She will also be involved in tree planting and coordinating maintenance and management activities of current LSLT projects.



Delmarva Bird Conservation Series a Success!



This past spring and into the summer, Lower Shore Land Trust and Eastern Shore Land Conservancy partnered on a series of workshops funded by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology Land Trust Small Grant Program. The series was designed to raise awareness about the decline of many bird species and the wide range of conservation and restoration work taking place across Delmarva to address these challenges.

At Pickering Creek Audubon Center, participants learned about wetland restoration and walked through a reforestation area before listening to american woodcock (*Scolopax minor*) whistle in the evening air calling for a mate.

During the visit to Chino Farms, attendees learned new information and facts about northern bobwhite (*Colinus virginianus*) conservation. The visit to Foreman's Branch was a highlight for participants interested in seeing the bird banding process. An extra bonus, we saw the bird-friendly glass testing demonstration.



Dan Small, Natural Lands Project Coordinator, speaks to participants at Chino Farms and Maren Gimpel holds a Hermit Thrush at Foreman's Branch Bird Banding Station



The series continued with a visit to Delaware Wild Lands' Taylor Bridge Roberts Farm property. The group saw wood duck (*Aix sponsa*) nesting boxes, counted and candled eggs, and learned about the great conservation work in Delaware.

During the trip to the Colonial bird nesting platforms, staff from Audubon Mid Atlantic and Maryland Coastal Bays Program spoke of the loss of habitat facing common tern (*Sterna hirundo*), royal tern (*Thalasseus maximus*) and black skimmers (*Rynchops niger*). The nesting platforms are meant as a stop gap measure until restoration specialists can provide alternatives for restoring coastal island habitat.



Welcome Lower Shore Land Trust New Board Members!

TRACY CAUSEY-JEFFERY

Tracy was born and raised in Salisbury, MD, working within the family business, Larry J. Causey & Sons Inc. She learned to love the woods, planting trees, and gardening from her dad, Jack Causey, and farming from her grandfather, Elijah Truitt. In addition to Salisbury, Tracy has lived in London and New York City. She was the former owner/director of her gallery, Causey Contemporary. She has served on the board of directors for the Art Institute and Gallery of Salisbury, MD and the Williamsburg Art Gallery Association, Brooklyn, NY, on the programming committee for ArtTable, on the gala committee for Chashama, NY, and as the liaison for Salisbury during Mrs. Glendening's Year of the Arts in Maryland.

Tracy and her husband Mark returned to the Lower Shore in 2020 to aid her aging mother. Since returning, they have begun a natural straw bale garden on the family farm outside Snow Hill and have developed and sell their own line of hot sauces with ingredients they nurture from seed to sauce. When Tracy's not working in the garden, reviewing grants for Maryland State Arts Council, or serving on the board of the Lower Shore Land Trust, she is studying for her master gardener's certificate or herbal practitioner's certificate, practicing yoga, reading, enjoying sunsets over the Wicomico River, or studying Japanese.



COLIN MCALLISTER

A Lower Shore native, Colin McAllister grew up in Wicomico County where he developed a deep love and appreciation for local lands and waters. After graduating from Parkside High School, he attended and graduated from University of Tennessee with a Horticulture/Plant Sciences degree. He then graduated from University of Georgia's School of Environmental Design with a degree in Landscape Architecture. He made his way back to the Eastern Shore and subsequently graduated from Salisbury University's Geography and GIS Program. In 2008, he accepted a position as a Resource Conservation Planner with the Maryland Department of Agriculture. He is currently a Regional Coordinator for MDA and assists farmers and landowners with conservation advice, certification, review and compliance.

Colin resides in Snow Hill with his wife Stephanie and their three children, Eliza, Oliver and Everett. He loves spending family time exploring local trails, kayaking, paddle boarding, birding and fishing the Pocomoke River or surfing and exploring Assateague.



CHARLENE SHARPE

Charlene Sharpe, a longtime Worcester County resident, is a newspaper reporter. She grew up on a horse farm outside Berlin and graduated from Stephen Decatur High School in 2003. She went on to attend the University of Richmond, where she was a member of the equestrian team and studied abroad in Spain. Charlene graduated in 2007 with a degree in journalism and returned to Worcester County to work for the Delmarva Media Group. After seven years there, she left to join the staff at The Dispatch, a locally owned newspaper that's provided coverage of Ocean City and the surrounding area since 1984. She covers Worcester County government as well as the Town of Berlin and general human interest stories. Charlene has a deep appreciation for Worcester County's rural heritage and, outside of work, enjoys running, horseback riding, and harness racing.



Ways to Support Lower Shore Land Trust

Here are several ways that you can make a huge impact - FOREVER!

Financial/Monetary Donation: In addition to accepting cash donations, LSLT accepts gifts of Stock, Mutual Funds, IRA Charitable Rollovers, Donor Advised Funds, and Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs).
Planned Giving: Consider naming LSLT as a beneficiary of your life insurance policy or include us in your Will.

Real Estate: LSLT accepts gifts of land - we are always looking for conservation properties. We also accept donations of cars, boats, buildings and other assets that can be sold and used to further LSLT's mission.

A recent bequest to Lower Shore Land Trust did not come as a surprise because Mr. Rowland made his intentions known to the organization. Recently, we also learned we have been added as a beneficiary to Barbara Seabrook's Will. Barbara has a passion for gardening and has been featured on the Pollinator Garden Tour during the inaugural year and this past year.

We encourage you to contact your financial advisor, estate attorney, or a tax consultant to learn how these transactions can benefit you and support the causes that matter to you. If you would like to learn more about how you can make a lasting impact, contact Kate Patton, LSLT Executive Director at 443-234-5587 or kpatton@lowershorelandtrust.org.

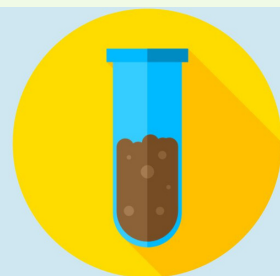
Stewardship Corner

Soil Health

Stewardship Coordinator Frank Deuter participated in a year-long training through the American Farmland Trust. This grant award provided support for LSLT to promote soil health practices to the farmers and resource managers with whom we work. Soil health is vital not only to large scale agriculture but also to your backyard gardens. If your plants are not happy, it is usually a sign of poor soil health. Check out these tips to increase the soil health in your backyard!

For more information on what you can do in your backyard, reach out to your local University of Maryland Extension Service, or contact LSLT staff Frank Deuter: fdeuter@lowershorelandtrust.org

TEST YOUR
soil



LEAVE IT
green



DON'T FORGET TO
mulch



Land Connections

Lower Shore Land Trust
100 River Street
Snow Hill, MD 21863



PRSRT STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT 247
SALISBURY, MD
21801

Upcoming Events...

Friday, September 16 - Deadline to submit nominations for the Stephen Parker Conservation Award

LSLT is seeking nominations for the 2022 Stephen N. Parker Conservation Legacy Award. The award is an opportunity recognize an individual that has displayed an enduring and distinct dedication to conserving the vital lands of the Lower Eastern Shore. An award ceremony will take place at the Flannel Formal on November 12th.

Saturday, September 25 - River Rally

Celebrate World Rivers Day at Ayers Creek Adventures for River Rally 2022! Registration - \$20 per person (Includes shirt!) Join us at 9:00 am for coffee and pastries then explore Ayers Creek by kayak or on a paddle board. Free launch if you bring your own boat or enjoy discount rates for rentals.

Chrissy Ehrhart of Zenna Wellness Studio will be leading a yoga practice to give thanks to the waters that flow. All paddlers participating in River Rally during World Rivers Day are welcome.

Saturday, November 12 - Flannel Formal is Back!

A benefit for Lower Shore Land Trust

Location: Brooklyn Meadows, Berlin, MD

From: 3:00 - 6:00 pm

Oysters - Charcuterie

Pig Roast

Signature Cocktail - Wine - Beer

Baked Dessert Sweets

Live music featuring Margot & Co with her 4 - piece band!

<https://lower-shore-land-trust.networkforgood.com/events/45623-2022-flannel-formal>



November 19 - Discover Your Watershed with MCBP and LSLT!

Save the date! LSLT is excited to partner with Maryland Coastal Bays Program on a conservation easement property for invasive species removal to learn about the role of restoration in the watershed.

December 2 & 3 2022 ~ Annual Greens Sale & Open House!

First Friday from 4 - 7 pm and Saturday Open House from 10 am - 1 pm in Snow Hill. Pick up fresh greens for holiday wreath making and decorations. Make a holiday ornament Saturday!

