



The Northern Rivers Land Trust *Newsletter*

No. 18

www.northernriverslandtrust.org

November 2018

NRLT Celebrates 'Easements and Easels'

On the afternoon of October 6, close to 100 enthusiastic friends of the Northern Rivers Land Trust gathered at White Water Gallery in East Hardwick to support and participate in Easements & Easels (E&E). This event, featuring an art exhibit and silent auction, was a celebration of art and land, and the relationship between artistic creation and the conserved rural landscape.



Andrew Meyer next to Ken Leslie's panel of his conserved land in Hardwick

Twenty-eight artists agreed to visit one of twelve properties currently conserved with the NRLT. The artists then interpreted their visit into expressive works of art, employing their own personal style and medium. Donated artworks were exhibited and sold, raising \$5,100 for the NRLT. The proceeds will help us continue with our mission to preserve the Vermont landscape.

Easements & Easels was also a celebration of the landowners who work with the NRLT and appreciate the value of conserving the landscape. The event introduced landowners to artists and highlighted the relationship between how we view and how we experience the land we live on. It was also an opportunity to understand the importance of the history and future of the land, and the vital role art plays in helping us appreciate the beauty of rural Vermont.

Lively music performed by Ann Ingerson, Dave Brown,

David Gaillard, and Neal McNaughten played in the background while artists, landowners, and supporters enjoyed the celebration. Guests were treated to *hors d'oeuvres* and wine and beer, compliments of NRLT trustees.



Guests heard NRLT chair Susie Houston outline the land trust's work, board trustee and E&E coordinator Marie LaPre described the process underlying the event, and Allison Van Akkeren explained her donation of a conservation easement on 90 acres in the Lamphear Brook Watershed.

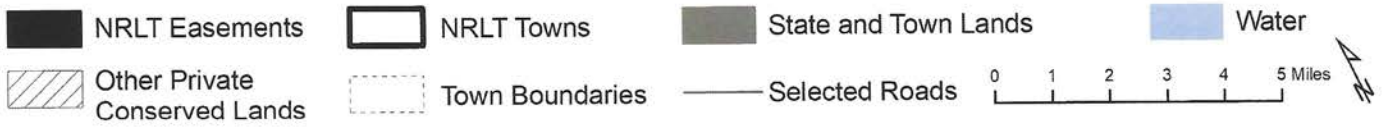
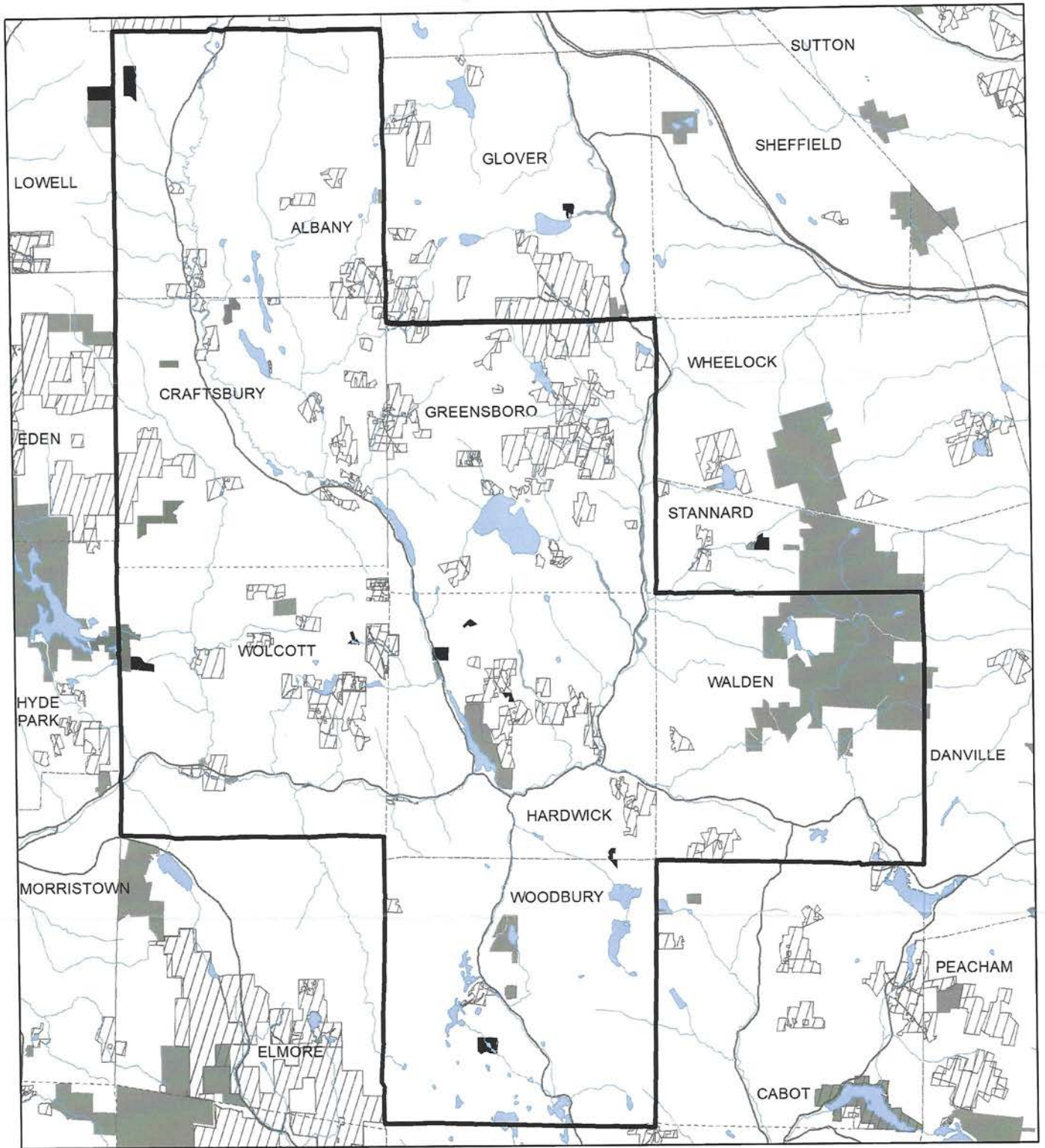


Elaine Cole next to her painting of Chris & Louisa Martin's conserved land on Shadow Lake in Glover

The NRLT extends a special thanks to James Teuscher for providing exhibition space at White Water Gallery.

[turn to page 4 for additional E&E photos]

Conserved Lands in the Northern Rivers Land Trust Region



About the NRLT

The NRLT is a partnership of people working together to ensure that, as Vermont changes, rural land in our region is not lost to development. Using legal tools called "conservation easements" or "grants of development rights," the NRLT helps landowners to voluntarily limit development while keeping the land open for forestry, farming, and recreation. The landowner decides whether to allow public access.

Although not ordinarily reducing property taxes, easement donations qualify as charitable contributions for federal and state income and estate taxes. They can be deducted from adjusted gross income (AGI) at up to 50% of AGI per annum, and spread over 15 years.

We work with landowners who love their land and want to see it conserved. We have received support from the Woodbury, Green Mountain, and Craftsbury Community Funds. We partner with the Vermont Land Trust. But mainly we rely on funds raised from residents and friends of the towns we serve. In 2017, 118 households and businesses donated a total of \$13,358.

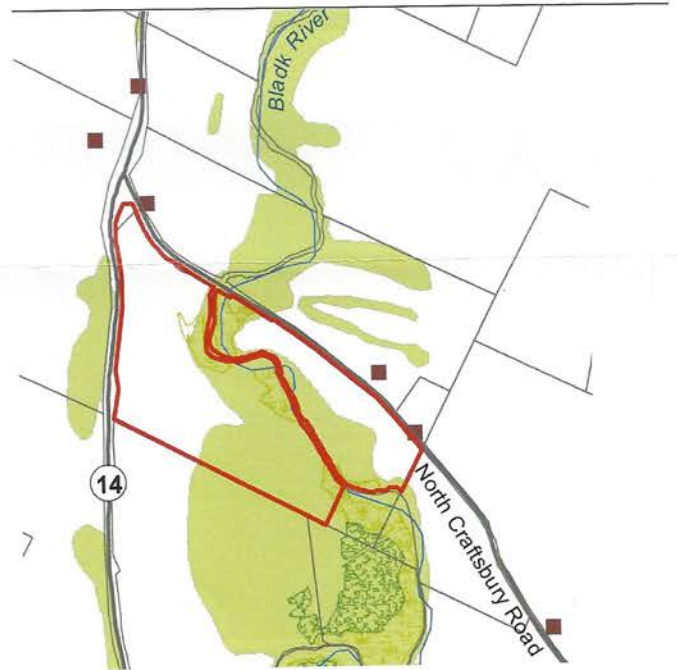
We talk regularly with potential conservators, and incur expenses for appraisals, surveys and stewardship. You can help by sending a check to **NRLT, Box 112, Hardwick, 05843.**

NRLT Board of Trustees

Susan Houston, Craftsbury, chair
 Steve Young, Wolcott, vice-chair
 Jack Travelstead, Woodbury, co-vice-chair
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 Diana Peduzzi, Woodbury, treasurer
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 Liz Chehayl, Albany; Jad Daley, Hardwick;
 Judy Davis, Craftsbury; Jennifer Lucas, Burlington;
 David McMath, Walden; Ann Ingerson, Craftsbury;
 Angela Ross, Albany; Susan Sawyer, Woodbury;
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June Cook conserving 95 acres in Craftsbury

Welcoming its first conservation easement in Craftsbury, NRLT has accepted an offer from prominent journalist June Pichel Cook to conserve 95 acres between North Craftsbury Road and VT Route 14. Roughly 60% productive forest, the property features broad views of hills on the west side of Route 14, and is bisected by a half-mile of the Black River.



June Pichel Cook's Craftsbury property

NRLT Conservation Easements

(listed by date of closing)

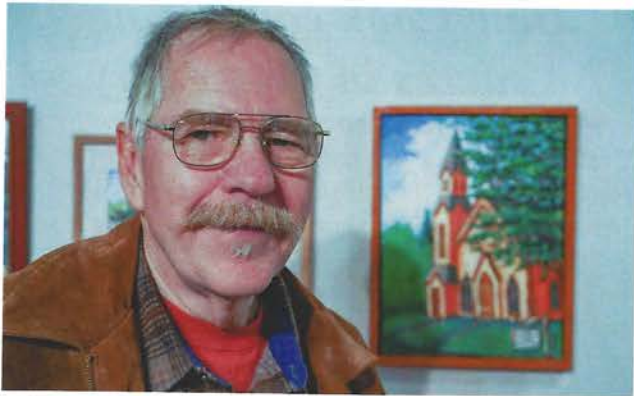
Landowner	Date	Town	Acres
Andrew Meyer	1997*	Hardwick	21
Paul Cillo	Dec. 2007	Hardwick	18
M.J. Dexter	Feb. 2010	Wolcott	94
Heartbeet Lifesharing	Dec. 2011	Hardwick	75
Pat Gahagan	Dec. 2011	Woodbury	93
David Ely	Aug. 2012	Wolcott	22
Lisa Lammi	Oct. 2012	Hardwick / Woodbury	33
Chris & Louisa Martin	Dec. 2014	Glover	35
Allison Van Akkeren	Dec. 2015	Lowell	87
Henry Coe	Dec. 2015	Albany	136
Bob Shay	Sept. 2016	Stannard	64
TOTAL			680

*first conserved with Greensboro Land Trust, transferred to NRLT in 2008

*More photos from
'Easements and Easels'*



Mary-Ellen Lovinsky next to her depiction of Bob Shay's conserved property in Stannard



Gary Smith next to his picture of Stannard's iconic church, bordering Bob Shay's conserved land



Hannah Schwartz and Ned Houston grapple over a pen while bidding for an E&E painting

**We've Celebrated 10 Years..
Help Fund Future Conservation
Actions. Please remember
Northern Rivers Land Trust
in your Estate Planning**

New NRLT Trustee



Cate Garvey moved to Vermont from upstate New York in 1987 and began her own landscape design and gardening business in 1990. She has always been passionate about the natural world and conservation, and is excited to be a new trustee of the NRLT. "I am thrilled to be part of this community of dedicated conservationists!" She lives in Wolcott, near beautiful Wolcott Pond.



Steve Wright next to his photo of beaver pond at Henry Coe's property in Lamphear Brook watershed

**Sawyer
Natural History Guide**
Susan Sawyer, author of *The Natural History Guide to the Northern Rivers Land Trust Area*, will talk about her book and the research behind it at the Greensboro Free Library, Sunday, December 2, at 2 p.m. All are welcome.