

Simsbury on Canvas —  
see page 10 for details

# FALL 2010 Landlines

SIMSBURY LAND TRUST

Since 1976

## Why are family farms important to Simsbury?

### **A Valuable Natural Resource:**

Some of the finest agricultural soil in the Northeast lies along the Connecticut and Farmington Rivers. Several of these farms use little or no pesticides.

**Locally Grown Food:** Fresh produce is a current and future luxury. Farmland makes community based farming possible.

**A Local Business:** Farms produce jobs, make local purchases and are a significant tourist attraction.

**Scenic Vistas:** These scattered farmscapes add greatly to the character of the town. No other part of our landscape changes so noticeably from week to week, reminding us daily of nature's cycle.

**Wildlife Habitat:** As the town approaches full development, wildfires no longer provide for natural fields. Fields would disappear without the active cutting that farming provides, and along with them, we would lose a large and important segment of our non-woodland plants and animals.

**History:** These 200 year old farms provide a visual reminder that for most of its three hundred years, Simsbury was primarily a farming village.

**Taxes:** The alternative to protecting our last remaining farmland is the fiscal strain of yet another residential development.

## Now is the time!

*We need your help to finish Tulmeadow Farm*

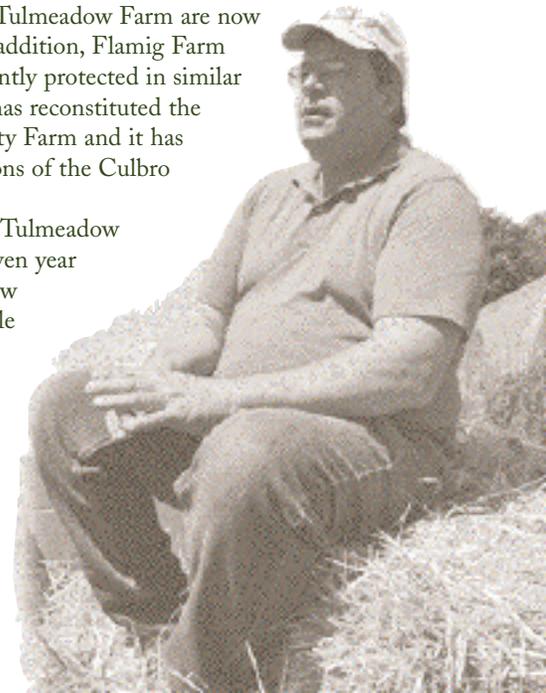
On a winter evening in 1999, several members of the Simsbury Land Trust sat around a table with Nevin Christensen, Marshall Epstein, George Hall, Buzz and Don Tuller and Bill Walsh. Someone started the conversation by observing that it was only a generation ago that farmland covered most of the town. Those few farms that remained were extremely important. "We take our children there, we drive by with our visitors, and we enjoy fresh vegetables, flowers and dairy products." Tourism experts and realtors told us these farms were important to the mix that made our town so attractive. They were a last vestige of our agricultural roots.

Out of this meeting came a commitment to take immediate steps to protect Simsbury's last remaining farms and farmland. Recognizing the tremendous scale of this undertaking, we set out to increase the public awareness that we cannot have farmscapes without farms, that a farm is a business with unique pressures caused by rapidly growing land values, and that because of the broad based benefits farmland provides to town residents, our farms desperately need, and deserve, consistent, long term and broad based community support.

In the years following that night long ago, we have received community support far beyond what we had originally envisioned. Scores of individuals joined the effort forming a remarkable core of energetic, persistent and inspired leaders, making this a truly sustained community wide effort. As a result of these efforts, 110 acres of farmland at Rosedale Farms and 187 acres at Tulmeadow Farm are now permanently protected by SLT easements. In addition, Flamig Farm and the Joseph Hall Farm have been permanently protected in similar manner by the Town of Simsbury. The town has reconstituted the Town Farm Dairy as the Simsbury Community Farm and it has purchased the Dewey Flower Farm and portions of the Culbro Triangle for long term agricultural use.

Today, with the gathering of funds for the Tulmeadow Woodlot, the SLT is nearing the end of its seven year effort to protect the entire 260-acre Tulmeadow Farm. As with its earlier protection of Rosedale Farms, the SLT has worked hard to provide a balanced capital base for the purchase of these easements. Over the years, the SLT has assembled just over \$5,000,000 to protect Rosedale and the first two phases of

*(continued on page 8)*





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Simsbury Land Trust  
P.O. Box 634  
Simsbury, CT 06070  
860-651-8773  
[www.simsburylandtrust.org](http://www.simsburylandtrust.org)

### LANDLINES —

*Editor:* Amy Zeiner

*Design:* John Johnson Art Direction  
and Design

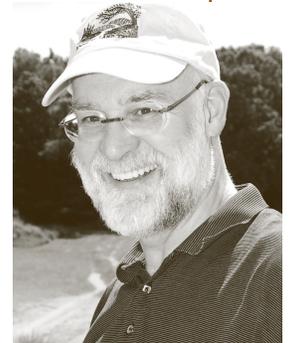
### *Photographers:*

David Clark, Dick Clark,  
T.J. Donohue, Ray Padron,  
Don Rieger, Rick Wartens

# Letter from the President

— Chuck Howard

We are nearing the end of our efforts to preserve the Tulmeadow Woodlot. This is the last phase of an extraordinary effort to preserve Tulmeadow Farm that has been underway since 2004. In the first two phases of this project the Simsbury Land Trust was able to raise the funds — through generous donations and from local, state, and federal grants — to purchase the development rights of 187 acres of the farm. The current and final phase is for the 73-acre Tulmeadow Woodlot, which is known by many people in town as the location of the much-loved Flamig Farm Hayrides every year. In addition to the federal Forest Legacy Grant of \$1.415 million that I reported on last year, I am pleased to report additional grants that we recently have received. Over the summer, the Town of Simsbury authorized a grant of \$280,000, contingent on raising the remaining acquisition funds, and SLT also received a grant of \$75,000 from the Richard P. Garmany Fund through the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving. With additional funds and pledges received by SLT, we have now raised approximately \$2.2 million toward this third and final phase. That is where you come in. We are still looking for donations and grants for about \$600,000 to enable us to close on this property by year end. I remain optimistic that, together, we can accomplish this goal and preserve an intact Tulmeadow Farm for agricultural purposes for generations to come.



The SLT also received a wonderful gift of land this year from Lina, Rick and Carole Wagner. This 62-acre parcel — the Wagner Woods — is located near Great Pond State Park and was given in memory of Dick Wagner, who loved the land and wished it to be preserved. This gift represents the largest single gift of property ever received by the Simsbury Land Trust. The SLT is very fortunate to have people who share our preservation goals and who are willing to make such generous gifts for posterity.

The SLT also received a gift of an undivided one-half interest in approximately 8 acres of land adjacent to Rt. 185 from Hank and Linzy Glover. SLT was particularly interested in this parcel because it is next to the land of Leland Holcomb, which is protected by a conservation easement that he recently donated to the SLT. We were also able to acquire the remaining one-half interest in this parcel over the summer. Both the initial gift and the purchase of the remaining one-half interest were accomplished pursuant to a Trade Lands policy, which was adopted by SLT, under which all or part of an acquired property may later be sold and the proceeds used for SLT purposes.

SLT has continued with a very active stewardship program. We take seriously our commitment to be good stewards of the land that we have. To that end, we also established an endowment fund with the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving this past spring. Our goal is to provide a means for people to make significant donations or bequests to the SLT with confidence that any funds donated will be well managed in perpetuity. As we continue to acquire property and property interests, funds for the long-term maintenance of the property takes on added importance. I hope you will read the planned giving article (page 7) and seriously consider a donation or a bequest to the Simsbury Land Trust Endowment Fund with the HFPG.



# “Wagner Woods” Donated to the Simsbury Land Trust

When the Simsbury Land Trust comes to mind, many of us think of the large purchases of land it has coordinated in recent years such as the conservation easements that permanently protect the Rosedale and Tulmeadow farms and the acquisition of the western ridge from The Master’s School. We owe a great deal to the many donors whose individual gifts leveraged public and private programs to make these purchases possible.

But of the 32 properties the land trust currently protects, twenty-five are the result of simple gifts of land from individuals who had the vision to recognize the importance of their land to the natural setting of our community and who had the generosity to give up personal gain for the benefit of the future. We recognize that a particular piece of land is often more than its economic value. It is often a place endowed with the quality of its owner’s life and the memory of generations. For this reason, we are always deeply impressed when one of our friends and neighbors makes the decision to gift their land. One such gift occurred this spring.

On April 21, 2010, Lina Wagner and her son Richard Wagner Jr., on behalf of herself and her late husband, Dick Wagner, donated 62 acres of land between Old Farms and Great Pond Roads. The site includes approximately eight acres of hayfield maintained at the center of the property where the home of the Boehm family once stood. The remaining land surrounding the field is now a mature forest and several small wetland areas are sheltered along the eastern portion of the woods. Besides being a large and valuable natural area in itself, it is also a complimentary habitat to the Great Pond State Park just to the east and the land trust’s 40 Acre Bog a short distance to the west.

For years, Dick and Lina enjoyed walking the site, identifying wild flowers and watching the birds and other wildlife that occupy it. Nearly 10 years ago they purchased the property with the intent of preserving it and they have cared for it ever since. Their desire was to see the land maintained as a diverse and healthy

environment for the area’s plants and wildlife. It served this purpose well under their stewardship and with this transfer to the Simsbury Land Trust the “Wagner Woods”

will continue to do so for years to come.

In early July, trustees and friends of the Simsbury Land Trust met at the Wagner home to thank Lina, her son Rick and his wife Carole, and to celebrate their gift. Dick and Lina were charter members of the Simsbury Land Trust and Lina was an early Trustee.

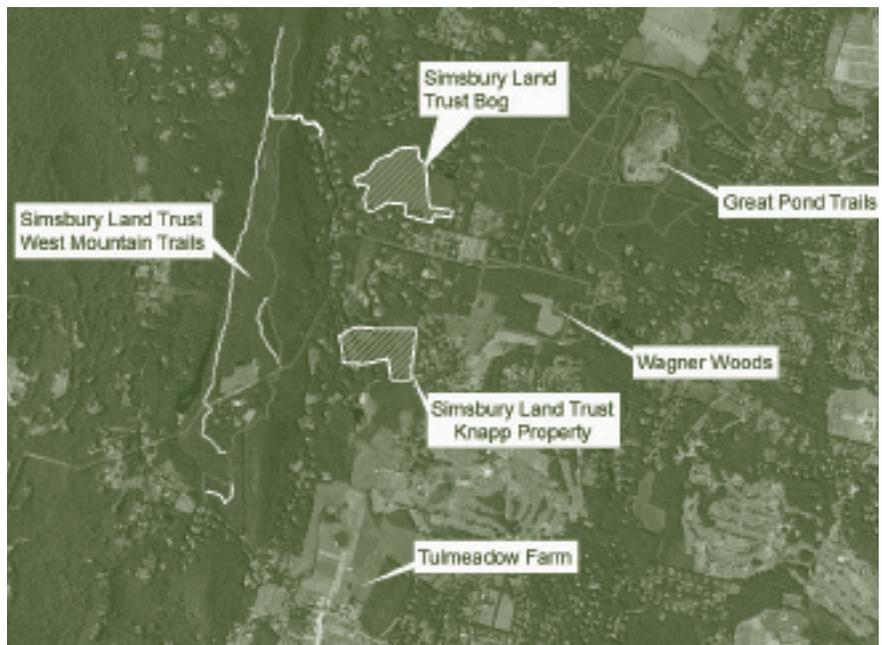
*Besides being a large and valuable natural area in itself, it is also a complimentary habitat to the Great Pond State Park just to the east and the land trust’s 40 Acre Bog a short distance to the west.*

*We recognize that a particular piece of land is often more than its economic value. It is often a place endowed with the quality of its owner’s life and the memory of generations.*

*SLT President Chuck Howard thanks Lina Wagner and her son, Rick, for their generous donation.*



*Wagner Woods is a great place for birdwatching, with over 35 species identified by local birder Roger Preston.*



## Simsbury Land Trust's Annual Membership Celebration

11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

- **Free** BBQ and hayrides
- Guided walks and hikes
- Information on upcoming SLT events and activities
- Entertainment by Sweetheart Mountain bluegrass band



# All-family fun

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16

Tulmeadow Farm  
rain or shine

# & run for the woods

### First Annual Run (or Walk) for the Woods!

10:00 a.m. Run / 10:30 a.m. Walk

- Our first ever fundraising trail event!
- Run or walk the Tulmeadow Farm Woodlot and beyond and help us raise money to "finish the farm." 5-mile trail run and 2-mile walk begin at farm.
- After the event join us at our annual membership celebration for food, music and fun.

Call 860-651-8773 or visit our website  
[www.simsburylandtrust.org](http://www.simsburylandtrust.org)  
for additional event information.

**Members:**  
**FREE** if you renew  
or join for 2011 by  
October 16.

One free entry for an individual membership, two free adult entries and one child for a family membership or higher. Additional children are \$5.00 each.

**Non-members:** \$25.00 per adult; \$15 for 18 and under, walk or run, which includes event t-shirt and post-run BBQ.

Pre-registration and payment required in order to receive the event t-shirt.

## First Annual Run for the Woods!

Saturday, October 16 • 10:00 Run | 10:30 Walk  
Tulmeadow Farm Field

Join the SLT for our first ever fundraising trail event! Run or walk the Tulmeadow Farm Woodlot and beyond and help us raise money to “finish the farm.” The 5-mile trail run and the 2-mile walk begin and end in the Tulmeadow Farm field. After the event join us at our annual membership celebration for food, music and fun.

Members: Free if you renew or join for 2011 by October 16. One free entry for an individual membership, two free adult entries and one child for a family membership or higher. Additional children are \$5.00 each.

Non-members: \$25.00 per adult; \$15 for 18 and under, walk or run, which includes event t-shirt and post run BBQ.

Pre-registration and payment required in order to receive the event t-shirt. Call 651-8773 for additional event information.

## Annual Membership Celebration

Saturday, October 16 • 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.  
Follow signs for parking at Tulmeadow Farm

Join us for the Annual Membership Celebration at Tulmeadow Farm. Free BBQ, hayrides, entertainment, and guided hikes will be offered. Membership brochures and information about other Simsbury Land Trust activities will be available.

Entertainment by Sweetheart Mountain — Family Fun!

Bring the whole family and join us for a fun event. Please, no dogs at this event! RSVPs are not required for this event. This will be held rain or shine.

## Metacomet Ridge Trail Hike

Sunday, October 24 • 10:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.  
Penwood Park Parking Lot

Join us for a fall hike along the Metacomet Ridge blue trail, starting at Penwood Park. Hikers will have the option of stopping at Wintonbury Road (for a 1-1/2 hour hike), or going all the way to Tariffville center (for a 2-1/2 hour hike). Shuttle back to Penwood can be arranged. Hikers may enjoy an after-hike lunch in Tariffville. This will be a great hike for kids, with some moderate uphill walking and several great views. Please wear sturdy shoes and bring water and snack. RSVP to 860-651-8773.

## Thank you party and hike for stewards, monitors and workday volunteers

Saturday, October 30 • 10:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.  
22 Woodhaven Drive

Have you helped us on the trails? At a workday? Please join us for a thank you hike and lunch. We will leave from the end of Woodhaven Drive for a nice hike through the Ethel Walker Woods. After the hike join us for lunch at the home of SLT trustee Karen Brand. Families and significant others are welcome. Don't want to hike? Join us for the lunch at 12 noon. RSVPs are required for planning purposes to 860-651-8773.

## Deep Travel with author David Leff

Thursday, November 4 • 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.  
Simsbury Public Library Program Room

Are you a deep traveler? Do you seek connections among the diverse phenomena you encounter daily? Join author David Leff for a journey that goes deep rather than far.

We'll begin our adventure with Henry David Thoreau on his epic trip along the Concord and Merrimack Rivers. But we'll also explore how our own ordinary journeys can probe the confluence of natural and cultural environments, how we can see the world in four dimensions, in time as well as space. Deep travel is about mindful looking, about journeys that go below the surface of the ordinary to find wonders hidden in plain sight. The restless eyes of ancient shepherds connected the dots in a night sky of chaotic stars and formed them into images and stories that captured the imagination and infused their world with meaning. The deep traveler does the same with the landscape around him. Deep travel is a methodology that will enrich a trip anywhere. To learn more visit [www.davidkleff.com](http://www.davidkleff.com). Refreshments will be served. RSVP to 860-651-8773.

## Simsbury on Canvas

*An Evening of Fine Art, Food and Wine to Benefit  
Simsbury Land Trust*

Friday, November 5, 2010 • 7:00 – 10:00 p.m.  
Tower Ridge Country Club

Join us for an art auction and wine sampling event featuring the work of local artists Catherine Elliott and Deborah Leonard. Other participating artists include John Johnson and Alexander Anisimov. Many of their works feature scenes of SLT properties. The proceeds of the auction will benefit the Simsbury Land Trust and the Tulmeadow Farm Woodlot. For pictures and descriptions of the works available at the auction visit our website at [www.simsburylandtrust.org](http://www.simsburylandtrust.org). Several additional items will be available including one week in a villa in Tuscany. Tickets are \$50 per person. Tables of 8 or 10 can be reserved. Ticket price includes food, wine sampling, open bar and entertainment. For information and tickets contact the Simsbury Land Trust at 860-651-8773 or [amyzeiner@aol.com](mailto:amyzeiner@aol.com).

## History of the land on West Mountain

Sunday, November 14 • 1:00 – 3:30 p.m.  
60 Westledge Road, West Simsbury Land Trust

Join Fred Feibel for a hike along the west ridge. We will hike the ridges and valleys of the eastern section of West Mountain examining aspects of the natural history and usage of the area by past residents. It will be a moderately difficult hike and last about 2.5 hours. Please bring water, dress appropriately for the weather and wear sturdy footwear. RSVP by 11/10 to 860-651-8773.

You can now register for a hike online at  
[www.simsburylandtrust.org](http://www.simsburylandtrust.org)



# Hurray!

## We Acquired That Land. Now What?

Since its beginning in 1976, the public face of Simsbury Land Trust has focused on acquisition of properties with high conservation value, for example, along the Hedgehog/West Mountain ridgeline. In a less public way, Simsbury Land Trust has addressed stewardship of its properties. As the number of protected acres has increased and as the land trust moves closer to its acquisition and protection goals, the stewardship effort is an increasingly important part of the organization's work.

### What Does Stewardship Entail?

**Trails and Paths:** Simsbury Land Trust invites public use of most of its properties and to make that possible, volunteers work on building and maintaining trails and paths.

In the last year, we established a trailhead at SLT's right of way by the fire pond on Metacom Drive. We blazed the trail from there to the James property in red. That route was always intended to facilitate public access to the Metacomet Trail (now the New England National Scenic Trail), and the town's acquisition of the adjacent Gersten property makes it even more valuable.

The third and final bridge on SLT's West Mountain Trails was built as an eagle scout project. It carries the blue trail across Bissell Brook to its junction with the white trail. Further trail improvements are in the works. Another eagle scout candidate is planning to install boardwalk segments in wet places along the blue trail just north of the power line crossing. In preparation for his work, stewardship volunteers cut dead and storm-damaged trees that might have posed a safety hazard on the trail. Several "widowmaker" trees were beyond the capabilities of volunteers and had to be dealt with by professional arborists.

SLT's West Mountain Trails were honored this year when Governor Rell designated them an official Connecticut Greenway. This recognized SLT's role in protecting

natural resources and scenic landscapes while offering opportunities for recreational access to the outdoors.

Access was also enhanced at SLT's Knapp Property, where an eagle scout candidate installed a boardwalk that spanned areas that can be wet in active beaver seasons. It also provided a route for walkers to access the back of the property without encroaching on the property of a neighboring homeowner.

Two new properties have been the focus of stewardship activities in preparation for their being recommended to the public as walking venues.

The Owen-Mortiner property offers the possibility of a trail from East Weatogue Street (near the junction with Terry's Plain Road and Riverside Road) to the power line cut in Penwood State Park. Much of that route has been invaded by Japanese Barberry, Multiflora Rose, and other alien plants that make it nearly impenetrable. SLT used a professional service to clear part of the way, and an eagle scout candidate is preparing trail improvements, such as water bars to prevent erosion and bridges and boardwalk segments to deal with wet areas. Other scouts have cleared most of the remainder of the route. Another eagle scout candidate stands ready to make that segment safe and easy for walkers. This is a big project, and we will defer inviting the walking public until it is ready sometime next year.

The Wagner Woods property acquired this spring will also offer walking and bird watching opportunities, but we are still working on it. Basic access will require beating back the poison ivy and brambles. To create some walking trails within the property we will need to study the woods and be sure of the property boundaries. We hope to be able to invite folks to enjoy this property, initially with only limited trails, within a few months.

### Habitat Maintenance and Improvement:

A major thrust of habitat maintenance and improvement has been the control of nonnative invasive plants. It is one thing for the land trust to acquire an

Before...



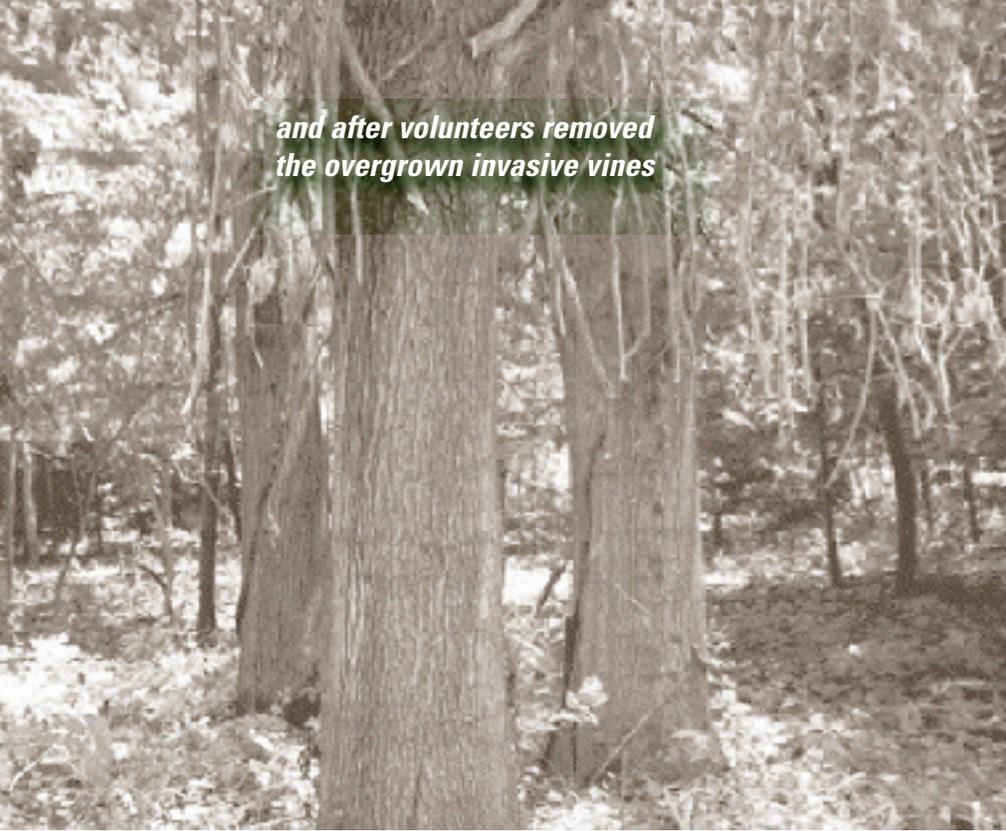
*As the land trust moves closer to its acquisition...*

ecologically sensitive property, but if the property is to retain its value as habitat for native species of plants and associated insects, birds and other animals, then it is critical that invasive species be prevented from crowding out the natives. This past year we held a volunteer work day for removing Japanese Barberry at the James property. We continued our efforts to manage invasive buckthorn at Case meadow. To prevent buckthorn from re-establishing itself in the meadow, both mature buckthorn trees and seedlings needed to be removed from the woods around the meadow. For this daunting job, we enlisted professional help. The work was partially funded by a U.S. Natural Resource Conservation Service grant. We also had the workers tackle the site's other invasive plants — Oriental Bittersweet and Multiflora Rose. As the number and size of stewardship projects has increased beyond what volunteers can handle, we have used more and more professional help. This means that stewardship funding is an increasingly large part of the land trust's budget.

### Conservation Easement Monitoring:

Some properties that the land trust protects are not owned by the land trust but are under conservation

*and after volunteers removed  
the overgrown invasive vines*



*stewardship and protection goals, the stewardship effort is an increasingly important part of the organization's work.*

easements. In these cases the land owner receives a payment through the land trust for agreeing that henceforth, in perpetuity, the property will only be used in specified ways and will not be developed. Rosedale Farm and Tulmeadow Farm are protected under conservation easements. This year, and every year as required by law, land trust volunteers walked these two easement properties to ensure that the terms of the easement agreements are being honored.

#### **Recruiting Property Stewards:**

An important stewardship goal of the land trust is to have a property steward for each major property. Property stewards monitor "their" properties for problems twice a year and bring the information to the attention of the rest of the Stewardship Committee for action. In May we hosted a successful event at the Apple Barn for recruiting new property stewards. Recruiting and retaining volunteer help is an ongoing effort.

*If you are interested in helping, call the Land Trust office at 860-651-8773.*

## **SLT Establishes Endowment Fund at the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving**

The Simsbury Land Trust took an important step this past spring to ensure its ability to care for the property entrusted to it with the establishment of the Simsbury Land Trust Endowment Fund with the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving. As the premier charitable foundation in the Greater Hartford area, the HFPG invests and manages funds valued at almost \$700 million in 2009. With these funds, the HFPG was able to make grants in 2009 of \$25.5 million for various purposes. The Simsbury Land Trust was the recipient of a HFPG grant of \$75,000 this year for the purchase of the development rights of the Tulmeadow Woodlot from the Richard P. Garmany Fund.

The HFPG was established in 1925 and has a strong track record of prudent investment and management of charitable endowment funds. We believed that the HFPG would be the ideal partner in establishing an endowment fund for SLT. As a result of the great success of our property acquisition and preservation efforts, the SLT now has the responsibility for long term property management and stewardship. We hope to continue our strong tradition of volunteer stewardship effort, but some of the projects we now have to undertake are too large or involved to rely on just volunteer labor. Both now and in the future, we will be called upon to pay for significant stewardship projects to deal with, for example, widespread invasive plant infestations. We sincerely hope that many of the people who have been our strong supporters in our property acquisition efforts will also recognize the need of SLT to be financially able to meet its stewardship responsibilities in the future and make either donations or bequests from their estates to this endowment fund. We created this endowment fund in a way that will enable us to draw upon the expertise of the HFPG to maximize the benefits to potential donors.

If you are interested in making a gift to the Simsbury Land Trust that will have long term benefits, please contact either the SLT office or the HFPG to learn more about how you can add to our endowment fund.

## Now is the Time!

(continued from page 1)

Tulmeadow (187 of the farm's 260 acre total). By working with the SLT, the Town has had the opportunity to help protect almost 300 acres of farmland at these two farms at less than six cents to the dollar. Half of this \$5,000,000 has come from the US Department of Agriculture and 20% has come from the State of Connecticut. These dollars came to Simsbury through the efforts of the SLT. Six percent came from the Town of Simsbury and the remaining 24% came from private funds donated to the SLT. Each party has furthered its own goals at far lower cost than it could have acting on its own. This has resulted in a meaningful benefit to the residents and taxpayers of Simsbury.

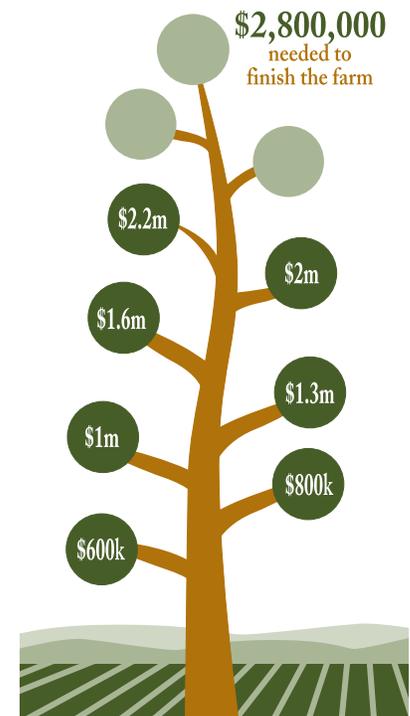
The SLT is working to provide a similar mix of funding sources for this final Tulmeadow easement. To date it has been awarded a 50% grant from the US Forest Service, a 10% grant from the town and has assembled 17% from

private sources. The SLT has an application outstanding for an 18% state grant. We are hopeful this project will receive the state award. If it does not, the SLT will have to raise the remaining 23%. At a minimum it needs an additional \$200,000 from private sources. The SLT and the people of Simsbury are this close to successfully completing the 73-acre Tulmeadow Woodlot project, and this close to closing the last significant link in a network of corridors that maintains Simsbury's wonderful natural diversity.

If you have not contributed to these acquisition efforts in the past, now is your chance to have your name along side your friends and neighbors as a participant in this historic 10 year effort. If you have donated in the past, please do so again. This farm will be enjoyed for generations to come but only if we finish the job now. This is one of those opportunities that we will never have again. We need to raise the remaining funds between now and year-end. Now is the time!

## Please Help Us Reach Our Goal

to Preserve Tulmeadow Farm



## Why Preserve the Woodlot?

The Tulmeadow Woodlot, the last remaining piece of the farm, provides important value to Simsbury residents, today and far into the future. It is:

### An Important Part of the Farm Operations

Logging, or "timber management" as it is called today, has been an integral part of Tulmeadow since it was established 230 years ago. Until the current generation, the farm operated its own saw mill and a number of the existing farm buildings were built from timber grown on the property. Today this 73-acre woodlot continues to be actively managed for sustainable growth. It produces a harvest every 7 to 10 years providing a periodic but regular source of needed capital for farm improvements. Additionally, woodlots are important to the long term sustainability of many farms such as Tulmeadow in that they provide more operational flexibility to better adapt to future needs and uses.

### A Strategic Location

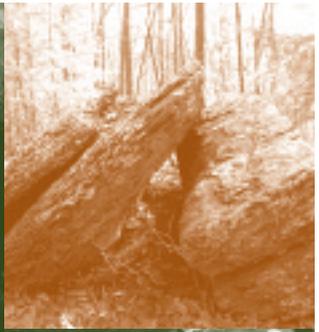
These woods are adjacent to other protected land. Their southern boundary abuts a substantial east/west corridor of several hundred acres consisting of Town owned open space, the rail bed connecting Stratton Pond State Park with the Ethel Walker Woods and Town Forest Park. Flamig Farm, protected by the Town's purchase of development rights, is adjacent on the west and the remainder of Tulmeadow Farm, already protected by SLT easement, is on the north, leading to the ridge corridor beyond. A recent study indicates that 42 houses could be easily built on this site, effectively partitioning each of these adjacent sites from one another.

### An Uncommon Land Type — Healthy Woods and Succession Habitats

Good management keeps the woods healthy and by maintaining an ongoing succession of younger growth, creates a richer variety of habitat for a broader range of plants and wildlife. Today, the Tulmeadow Woodlot is the only significant forest in Simsbury with its primary purpose to remain in active succession providing this type of habitat. Wildfires no longer thin out the more mature woods, and most landowners no longer harvest their forests for local lumber and firewood. Without these events, there is no opportunity for younger growth, for plants that require the sun or for all the wildlife that uses these types of plants.

### A Valuable Recreational and Educational Resource

We need to see and experience the natural world on a regular basis in order to understand and appreciate how important it is to our lives. This is particularly true of the less common land types. As one of the few examples of forest succession in town, this woodlot can provide an excellent educational opportunity for both adults and children just as the agricultural portion of the farm already does. In addition, hundreds of children and their parents have taken part in a popular Halloween Hayride that is presented each year during the month of October by the adjacent Flamig Farm. It is difficult to think of a comparable venue for this activity that is as exciting, safe and convenient. Finally, logging roads intertwine throughout the site and provide an interesting and entertaining setting for other daytime activities such as hay rides, walks and jogging.



## Simsbury – Surrounded by Nature’s Beauty



### *Help Us Keep it That Way.*



Time to renew your membership, or if you are not a member, join for 2011. Won't you take a few minutes and join or renew today?

Your membership contributions are very important to the SLT. Last year more than 700 members provided over \$90,000 in critical operating and program funds. Donations provide the funds necessary to take care of our properties and carry out our mission.

Memberships in the Simsbury Land Trust are based on the calendar year. Renewing or joining is easy — simply complete the enclosed membership envelope and return today.

**EVERY MEMBERSHIP COUNTS!**  
**A large and diverse membership indicates to funding sources that our mission is important to many people in Simsbury.** We need these grants to complete our purchase of the final 73-acre portion of Tulmeadow Farm.

**Memberships are our primary sources of operating funds.** Membership donations cover the expenses we incur running the organization, pursuing acquisitions, raising money to buy properties, and caring for the 32 properties we currently protect. They also provide the resources that allow us to conduct over 20 fun and educational events each year, most free of charge!

**Members energize our efforts.** Preserving land takes time, money and energy. A strong and growing membership sends everyone a message that you care about our mission. Our volunteers need to know that their efforts matter to you!

**TIME IS RUNNING OUT.**  
We often take for granted the open space in Simsbury. Fields and ridge lines are prime targets for development and may be lost forever unless we act quickly.

**PLEASE JOIN TODAY!**



**RENEW OR JOIN TODAY AND "THE OCT. 16 RUN" IS FREE**



PHOTOS BY JIM RAY

# *Simsbury on Canvas*



An evening  
of fine art,  
food and wine  
to benefit the  
Simsbury Land Trust.

*Join Us For An Evening of Creative "Fun"raising*

**Friday, November 5, 2010**

Tower Ridge Country Club • 7–10 p.m. • \$50 per person

THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS SPONSORS



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*Sponsorship opportunities are still available. Contact us at 860-651-8773*

Yes, I want to join in the fun!

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ tickets (\$50 each)

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ table of 10  
(\$500 to reserve)

CITY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Total enclosed

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_

*Please make checks payable to  
Simsbury Land Trust.*

## Please Help us Finish the Farm!

The Simsbury Land Trust is hosting an art auction to raise funds to help “finish the farm.” We are working to protect the third and final piece of Tulmeadow Farm, the 73-acre woodlot. The money raised from this event will help complete this project.

Local artists Catherine Elliott, Deborah Leonard, John Johnson, Alexander Anisimov and others will be displaying paintings, and limited-edition prints of Simsbury scenes and more. Many of the pieces are images of Simsbury Land Trust properties. Prints will also be available from a limited number of pieces.



*Visit our website at [www.simsburylandtrust.org](http://www.simsburylandtrust.org) to see pictures and descriptions of many of the paintings. The Simsbury On Canvas web page will be updated frequently prior to the event, so visit often to see the most recent additions!*



*Villa Linda*



*House Rita*

## Bid on a chance to win One Week in a Tuscany Villa!

Villa Linda sits nestled atop of a mountain in the quaint and quiet town of Pariana, in Tuscany. The Villa has 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, LR, DR, kitchen, deck, patio all upstairs, and a downstairs apt. with 1 bedroom, LR, DR, bathroom. It is not far from several of Italy's finest and intriguing cities, such as Pisa and Florence. Just down the road in the same neighborhood is House Rita which also sleeps up to 8 and is a cozier version of the Villa.

### THE EVENING'S AGENDA

**7:00–8:30 p.m.**

Wine sampling  
Hor d'oeuvres  
Food stations  
Open Bar  
Music by Legacy  
Silent Auction

**8:30–9:00 p.m.**

Dessert and coffee served

**9:00–10:00 p.m.**

Live Auction



**SIMSBURY LAND TRUST**

P.O. Box 634 | Simsbury, CT 06070

Non-Profit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage  
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Permit No. 158

*Our Busiest Fall Yet—  
We Have Something for Everyone*

H I K E S      W O R K S H O P S

Come  
**Join us**  
this fall

*We're much more than  
just some pretty spaces!*



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