



DARIEN
LAND TRUST

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Fall
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LAND REVIEW

A newsletter published by the **Darien Land Trust**, an independent, non-profit organization

Fall
2010

Photograph courtesy of the Darien Historical Society



1958



Dunlap Lake, created by the construction of I-95, was the Darien Land Trust's first property and is today a 22-acre Nature Preserve.

JOIN US FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING

"Only the Land Remains."

This year we are celebrating our 50th anniversary. At our annual meeting we will be giving a presentation on the history of the Darien Land Trust, our major accomplishments and current and future direction; entitled "Only the Land Remains."

Come help us celebrate at our **Annual Meeting at 5pm on November 14th at the Wee Burn Country Club**. Paintings of our properties by local artists will add to the festive air and will be on sale before and after the presentation.

We will be saying farewell to valued Trustees Katie Kidder, Woody Oldrin, Bruce Orr,

Denise Sellhausen and Jim Tweedy and thanking them for their collective years of service. The DLT membership will then vote to elect five new trustees, Bob Arrix, Ron D'Andrea, Bill Jones Eileen Smith and Greg Willis.

The annual meeting is open to all, and we hope everyone will join us in celebrating the first 50 years of your Darien Land Trust. Happy Anniversary!



DARIEN LAND TRUST UPCOMING EVENTS

Small Change at
Whole Foods Market
Look out for the "Small Change"
holder at each register
All spare change collected in
Oct., Nov., and Dec.
will benefit the
Darien Land Trust.

November 1st
"PLAY AGAIN" film screening
7pm at the Darien Library
co-sponsored with the
Darien Nature Center.

Important film on the
impact of modern technology
on our children and the
importance of reestablishing
their connection to the
natural world.
www.playagainfilm.com

Celebrating Our 50th Anniversary

Friends & Neighbors,

When we were founded in 1960, Darien was a smaller, quieter, much more rural place. Newly bisected by I-95 (which opened in 1958), our community was poised to experience rapid and significant growth in population and development over the next few decades.

Celebrating our 50th anniversary this fall, we salute the forward-minded individuals who started our journey as guardians of open space on the cusp of that change. We also express gratitude to the members of this community who have donated land, funds, vision and time ever since, helping us grow to the nearly 200 acres we have in our care today. In a town now more than 95% developed, those green open places are cause for celebration.

We hope you'll join us to celebrate the Darien Land Trust's 50th year at our Annual Meeting at 5pm on Sunday, November 14th at The Wee Burn Country Club. In addition to a presentation on where we've been and where we hope to go as an organization, we will be honoring several

retiring trustees whose longstanding (and outstanding) contributions have been critical to our success. We will also be proposing five new trustees for election to our board — Ron D'Andrea, Bob Arrix, Bill Jones, Eileen Smith and Greg Willis.

This edition of our newsletter also serves as our annual report, providing an opportunity to recognize and thank the many generous people in this community who support our work and to report to our membership on the year. There will be a number of opportunities to connect with and support the Darien Land Trust this fall, among them a screening of the film "Play Again" and our Annual campaign. We hope all of you will be a part of our story going forward — become a member, a donor, a volunteer.

President

STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES	2010	2009
	TOTAL	TOTAL
REVENUE AND SUPPORT:		
Contributions—cash and real property	\$532,000	\$1,268,898
Membership	140,566	90,382
Investment income, including unrealized gains (losses)	46,070	(149,664)
Other income	381	3,271
Total Revenue and Support	\$719,017	\$1,212,887
EXPENSES:		
Program services	\$103,247	\$128,410
Management and general	25,805	19,691
Fundraising (includes Waterbury Field capital campaign)	11,163	9,230
Total Expenses	\$140,215	\$157,331
Increase (decrease) in net assets	\$578,802	\$1,055,556
Net Assets—beginning of year	\$21,857,142	\$20,801,586
Net Assets—end of year	\$22,435,944	\$21,857,142

BALANCE SHEET	2010	2009
ASSETS		
CURRENT ASSETS:		
Cash and equivalents	\$1,301,727	\$1,256,493
Investments	216,368	191,678
Pledges receivable	—	10,000
Other current assets	1,857	2,302
Total Current Assets	\$1,519,952	\$1,460,473
Land and conservation easements	20,929,634	20,397,634
Total Assets	\$22,449,586	\$21,858,107
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
LIABILITIES:		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$13,642	\$965
Total Liabilities	\$13,642	\$965
NET ASSETS:		
Unrestricted	\$1,506,310	\$1,459,508
Temporarily restricted	—	—
Permanently restricted	20,929,634	20,397,634
Total Net Assets	\$22,435,944	\$21,857,142
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$22,449,586	\$21,858,107



Darien Land Trust 2009-10 Key Accomplishments

1. Accepted a one-acre open space property on Arrowhead Way in Tokeneke.
2. Released the second batch of pregnant herring to reestablish the ancient herring migration route up Noroton River to our Olson Woods Lake.
3. Continued the eradication of foreign invasive Phragmites reeds and watched as native plants reestablished themselves in the Holly Pond and Tokeneke salt marshes.
4. Reintroduced hundreds of Spartina, Hibiscus and other indigenous plants in the salt marshes of Holly Pond.
5. Gratefully accepted the increased help of scores of volunteers on our properties.
6. Increased the rate of upgrading the conservation value of our meadows with native wildflowers and grasses at Mather Meadows and Nearwater Lane.
7. Expanded our nature education outreach by initiating and collaborating with the Darien Nature Center and Oxridge School. Resourced a private foundation grant to cover tuition and transportation costs to Dunlap Woods for second grade students.
8. Hosted the CT Audubon Spring Breeding Bird Survey at our Dunlap Woods and Tokeneke Nature Preserves.

Memorial Gifts

In Memory of Kingsbury Browne, Jr
 Ms. Averill Babson & Mr. Gregory Sohns

In Memory of Robert A. Monro

BareRose 17th, LLC
 Ms. Linda Burton
 Mr. & Mrs. Edward P. Clarke
 Mr. & Mrs. Eugene G. Howie
 Mr. Phillip King
 Mr. & Mrs. Frank A. Rosenberry
 Mr. & Mrs. John Schlachtenhaufen
 The Silvermine Golf Club
 Mr. & Mrs. Graham Werner

In Memory of Suzanne A. Davis

Mr. & Mrs. Edgar W. Barksdale
 Ms. Elizabeth De Lima
 Mr. & Mrs. Richard Harding, Jr.
 Mr. & Mrs. W.C. Brian Peoples
 Mr. & Mrs. John Wood

In Memory of Brendan Shay

Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Allen
 Ms. Eve Aries
 The Balloch Family
 Mr. & Mrs. James R. Bergin
 John A. Bishko
 Adam Liptak & Jennifer Bitman
 Stephen Brainard
 Wendy & Ned Brokaw
 Ms. Megan Brown
 Mr. & Mrs. Byron Callan
 The Cameron Family
 Mr. & Mrs. Steven Caruso
 Mr. & Mrs. J. Scott Coburn
 Larry & Judy Cohen Foundation
 Mr. & Mrs. James Coley
 Ms. Lynn G. Corder
 The Cortright Family

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 Mr. & Mrs. Brian J. Curry
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 Darien High School Parents Assn.
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 Mr. & Mrs. D. Bruce Hill
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 Mr. & Mrs. Jeroen Tas
 Mr. & Mrs. James Tropsta
 Nancy Smith & Nancy Turner
 Mr. & Mrs. Jeffrey Tyrrell
 Mr. & Mrs. Gregory T. Willis & Taylor
 Mr. & Mrs. John Wood
 Mr. & Mrs. Greg Woodson
 Mr. & Mrs. Scott Zimand

In Memory of Harry Srebotnik
 Mr. & Mrs. Charles Rondano