



NEWSLETTER

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

The 1989-1990 year has been one of change and growth in our land trust. Much is happening in Putnam County at a very rapid pace. The solid waste problem which the county faces has energized and awakened people to the threats to our environment. It is clear that Putnam needs, more than ever, an energetic and aggressive land trust to pursue open space objectives. It is essential that we reach out to local groups, both governmental and citizen, that share our objectives.

We have started to do just that. Last year we changed our name to "Save-Open-Spaces, Inc.: The Putnam County Land Trust". The name change was intended to signal a new direction built on the many accomplishments of the past. This past year we acquired two new parcels. One parcel (48 acres) was given to us by Putnam County. The second parcel, of approximately 1.3 acres, is an addition to the Field Farmstead Preserve. There have been several inquiries and one offer of a conservation easement. These matters are under discussion at this time by your Board of Trustees.

The past year also saw the passage of Resolution #629 of 1989. This resolution created a county policy whereby any lands acquired in the Great Swamp due to non-payment of taxes would become part of the "Great Swamp Conservation Area". The resolution states that this is to be a non-development zone. Resolution #629 was drafted by Save-Open-Spaces and lobbied through the legislature. We will continue to promote the protection of the Great Swamp through the funding of research, public awareness programs and, where possible, direct protection of the sensitive areas.

This, however, is not enough. There are other issues of importance which must be addressed. The Northern Putnam Greenway is one that will figure prominently in our planning for 1990-1991.

In 1990, your land trust set up a land acquisition committee to develop a strategy for identifying and recommending parcels for new acquisitions. Concurrently with this committee's work, efforts to increase our funding must be developed. The work has just begun. We are on the move and more than ever need your help. It is an exciting time filled with opportunities. We look forward to your input.

Michael T. Ciaiola

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ROSS WOODLAND RENAMED

At the request of Doug Salmon and Dr. Henry Ross, "The Ross Woodland Preserve" was renamed the "Glenda Farrell-Henry Ross Woodland Preserve". The late actress Glenda Farrell was the wife of Dr. Henry Ross.

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THE HUDSON RIVER VALLEY GREENWAY

Save-Open-Spaces testified at the July 21, 1989 Bear Mountain hearing on the Hudson River Valley Greenway. We presented testimony on behalf of creating such a greenway. In April 1990, the Draft Study for a "Hudson River Valley Greenway" was finished. The final study should be ready late this fall or early this winter.



