

Front Page

March 2000 edition; Newsletter of the
Carroll County Land Trust

ANNUAL TAX DEDUCTIBLE CONTRIBUTIONS

It's year 2000 and the work of the Carroll County Land Trust goes on as far as its donations will carry it. The Trust remains grateful for each and every donation it has received in the past. It pledges to continue to keep members contributions working hard to achieve permanent farmland preservation as well as serving as grantee for donated conservation easements in Carroll County. It is through your cash donations that the Trust is able to provide technical assistance without charge to landowners who are willing to donate an easement on their land.

Please make your annual gift as generous as you can and know that by doing so you are helping to preserve Carroll County's rural legacy. Make your check payable to:

Treasurer, Carroll County Land Trust,
P.O. Box 2137, Westminster, Md. 21158

Thank you for your help and support!

ANNUAL DINNER MEETING

*Westminster Elks Club, Thurs. Apr. 20
6:30 refreshments open bar; 7 PM
Dinner. Mark this on your calendar!
(for details go to top of next column)*

ANNUAL DINNER MEETING

(Continued from column one)

Back by popular demand! The Westminster Elks Club will be the place of our Annual Dinner Meeting again this year. Last year we had a terrific meal and program, so we're looking forward to another one this year. This is a good time to mark this date up on your calendar with a note to RSVP no later than April 15th. We'll need a count of members and any guests of a member who will be attending. A dinner menu and reservation form is enclosed with this newsletter. Program arrangements are being made by the executive committee. We hope you can be there!

CAROL HACKNEY DONATES A CONSERVATION EASEMENT TO THE CARROLL COUNTY LAND TRUST

This easement is located on Carol's current homeplace adjoining the massive Liberty Reservoir holdings in the Oakland area of Eldersburg. It is 10.25 acres of immaculately kept land surrounding the historic buildings on the property, as well as being home to her Morgan horses. The easement given jointly to the Carroll County Land Trust and the Maryland Environmental Trust, was recorded November 11, 1999 in the land records of Carroll County. Carol calls her homeplace "Cold Saturday" after her old homeplace near Finksburg. If things work out, remaining portions of the original Cold Saturday Farm still in the Hackney Family, may also come under easement one day. We welcome Carol to that 'honor roll' of landowners

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who are preserving the legacy of this land with their deeds of easement.

WEIGH AND PAY PROGRAM UNDERWAY—*you've got to creep before you crawl!*

Thanks to Vice President Louisa Stevenson, the Carroll County Land Trust has staked out a claim for a “tiny” revenue stream which it hopes through the ingenuity of its members can figure out a way to turn this tiny stream into a very respectable revenue stream. It is interesting that when Louisa went to the landfill one day, she was hit by the smell of-----yes, that's right, the smell of money. Taking her aluminum cans to the landfill like a good citizen, she got to thinking about how small the reimbursement checks for the recycled cans were, and how they often ended up on or under the back seat, never to be cashed. Because she also knows how hard the Land Trust struggles to raise the funds needed to provide services to landowners without charge, the idea hit her. Why not try and develop a voluntary program where a citizen could donate their aluminum can weight tickets to the Carroll County Land Trust? The idea took off, was cleared through the proper authorities, and given a green light. Louisa then commenced to make the most beautiful Carroll Farm Scene with a message about donating your recycle money to the Land Trust. The sign is posted in a visible and strategic location at the Northern Landfill Recycle Center. So if we report that the Land Trust received a check for \$17.20 for the month of February your first impression may be to laugh. But consider that we

have done no “PR” yet. No front page(no pun intended) stories in the Carroll County Times yet or in the Baltimore Sun which might beat the Times to it. No don't laugh yet, because currently the price paid at the recycle center per pound of aluminum, is 29 cents. Divide that into \$17.20 and you get 59.3 lbs. of aluminum that people donated to the Carroll County Land Trust this month. To this we say thank you and we'll keep this in our minds: that for everyone who contributed to this 59.3 pounds, there are more who would do the same if they just knew about the program. Now consider this. In the month of July 1999, reimbursements money for approximately 7 tons of aluminum cans was paid out at the Recycle Center. That's $7 \times 2000 = 14,000 \text{ lbs} \times .29 \text{ cents per lb.} = \$4,060$. One % of this would be \$40.60 and one half of one % would be \$20.30. Now since the handle for February was only 3.5 tons that means that we got .0085% of the handle just short of 1%. If we could get it up to 5% a month, it could get interesting and then say about 10%, boy you're talking about a serious revenue stream that could do very good things in the agricultural land preservation effort. There's someone out there with brain power who can take us to a higher level. We can smell it, but we need to find the way to increase our tap into this stream. Let us hear from you if you have an idea. Look what Louisa started! Let's go for it! *Carroll County Land Trust needs to hear from you*
Phone No.: 410-848 8247;
Fax No. 410-848-8260 *Editor*
NEXT ISSUE: UPDATE: ADDITIONAL EASEMENTS GOING TO RECORD & A PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX CREDIT FOR DONATED EASEMENTS