

**GREAT MEADOWS CONSERVATION TRUST, INC.
CALL TO ANNUAL MEETING**

Date: Wednesday, March 15, 2006 **Time:** 7:15 PM

Place: United Methodist Church Parish Hall,
626 Old Main St, Rocky Hill

corner of Church & Old Main Streets; Parking is off Church Street.

- Agenda:**
1. Minutes of Annual Meeting 2005
 2. Treasurer's report for fiscal year 2005
 3. President's annual report to the members
 4. Report of the Nominating Committee.
 5. Election of Directors to serve through 2008.
 6. Election of Officers to serve until next annual meeting.
 7. Any other business which may properly come before the meeting.

Rick Doran, Secretary of the Trust

A Catered Dinner will precede the meeting and program

6:00 PM - Social hour - Fruit punch, cheese and crackers.

6:30 PM - Dinner - Menu: Baked chicken breast, roasted red potatoes, peas, Cole slaw with apples, celery, pineapple, raisins and chopped cherries, ice cream. A vegetarian casserole is available for those with dietary restrictions.

7:15 PM Annual Meeting Convened

8:00 PM Program:

Wildlife impact in the Great Meadows: location of playing fields and outdoor lighting for night activities, at the new Town Park in Glastonbury

Speaker: Ray Purtell, Director of Parks & Recreation, Glastonbury, CT

Clip and mail with check payable to Great Meadows Conservation Trust to GMCT Annual Meeting, E.A. Olson, 52 Hitching Post Lane, Glastonbury, CT. 06033 or call reservations to E.A. Olson (860) 633-8417. Please note this event is open to family and friends.

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Town _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Vegetarian _____ or special dietary needs _____

Number attending _____ \$12.50 per person Total enclosed _____

Reservations must be received no later than Wednesday, March 8th.

REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

MEMBERS: Mr. Wendell Coogan, Ms. Deborah McIntosh & Mr. Ralph Moyer

DATE: January 26, 2006

Nominations for Board of Directors (2006-2009)

Glastonbury:	Ms. Duffy Schade –	2nd
Rocky Hill:	Mr. Wendell Coogan –	1st
Wethersfield:	Ms. Ingrid Boelhouwer –	1st
	Mr. James Woodworth –	2nd

Nominations for Officers

President – Mr. James Woodworth
Vice President – Ms. Elisabeth Olsen
Secretary – Mr. Richard Doran
Treasurer – Mr. Richard Mihm

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CONTINUING BOARD OF DIRECTOR MEMEBERS

Name	Town	Term Exp. Date	Term #
Judith Haddad	Wethersfield	2008	1st
Pamela St. Jean	Wethersfield	2007	2nd
Clyde Brooks	Glastonbury	2007	2nd
Richard Mihm	Glastonbury	2008	1st
Elisabeth Olsen	Glastonbury	2008	2nd
Peter Maxwell	Rocky Hill	2008	1st
Edward Chiucarello	Rocky Hill	2007	1st
Richard Doran	Rocky Hill	2007	1st

Members of the Operations Committee who served in 2005

Board of Directors:

President: James Woodworth, Wethersfield,
Vice President: Elizabeth A. Olson, Glastonbury,
Secretary – Mr. Richard Doran
Treasurer – Mr. Richard Mihm
Clyde Brooks, Glastonbury
Edward Chiucarello, Rocky Hill
Richard G. Doran, Rocky Hill
Joseph Hickey, Wethersfield
Ralph O. Moyer, Wethersfield
Pamela St. Jean, Wethersfield
Edith Schade, Glastonbury
Wendell Coogan, Rocky Hill

Other Members of the Operations Committee:

Ingrid Boelhouwer, Wethersfield
Mary Carter, Rocky Hill
Neal Cox, Rocky Hill
Lawrence Lunden, West Hartford
Deborah McIntosh, Glastonbury
Joan Mihm, Glastonbury
Eleanor & Peter Revill, Rocky Hill
Susan Seilor, Marlborough
Julianne Steffens, Glastonbury
Donald G. Watson, Rocky Hill
Paul Woodworth, Hartford

GREAT MEADOWS CONSERVATION TRUST, INC 2005 ANNUAL REPORT

President's Report

The pumpkin flood of 2005, followed by an early winter, wrapped up another year along the banks of the long tidal river in the Great Meadows. The annual national Audubon Society Christmas bird count turned up 61 species in the meadows out of the 89 spotted in all of the Hartford area.

A stat like that—70% of the winter species—shows the importance of our goal of preserving and enhancing the habitat of the Great Meadows. This year, as we partnered with “like-minded” organizations, public and private, from neighborhood to national, the Trust worked hard to achieve its goals.

Early in the year, the Trust was contacted by TPL and Conte Refuge, and the Trust responded by featuring Clem Clay, Connecticut River Program Director, at our annual dinner meeting sharing the mission of Trust for Public Lands with us. In the next month we hosted forums for Andy French, Program Leader of the Silvio Conte National Fish & Wildlife Refuge, to share with our communities the mission of the wildlife refuge.



The efforts of high school community service and neighborhood volunteers were augmented with help from All Habitat Services, LLC. Their equipment, funded with a 75% matching grant from UDA, will enhance grassland and marsh habitat in the Wolf Parcel, while in the Wood parcel a streambed improvement project has been funded by the Town of Wethersfield. The contract, due to be awarded soon, will enhance water quality in Beaver Brook and open public accessibility to views of rich marsh habitat.



In June a local partnership sprang up to celebrate the Ferry 350th with Trust board member Peter Maxwell leading the charge to draw attention to the regional value of the ferry, and to coincide with state and national recognition of the Ferry Historic District, tying together the daughter towns of historic Wethersfield. The Trust sponsored a bike ride through the meadows from Wethersfield to the Ferry Landing, and funded the Showmobile.

Our efforts to share our passion for protecting the meadows gained momentum with a redesigned brochure thanks to Duffy Schade's photos, Phil Lohman's graphic design, and printing from CL&P. Two lively issues of *Meadowview* were designed and edited thanks to Duffy Schade, mailed to members, thanks to Joan Mihm, and posted at www.gmct.org, thanks to Lloyd Goldberg. Our successful winter walk program, led by Larry Lunden, continued our stewardship and outreach efforts, and was poised to reach a new level in 2006, as we partnered with CT Audubon Society in Glastonbury.



The Trust continued its partnership with local farmers, the game club, and neighbors to protect the Rocky Hill meadows from a revived motocross proposal. In Glastonbury, the Friends of Nayaug formed to assist the town in limiting development in South Glastonbury, and minimizing the loss of farmland and historic barns. They have turned to the Land Heritage Coalition, led by Trust member Jolly Steffens, and to the Trust for assistance in the coming months—stay tuned!

Jim Woodworth, President

**Trust Program Committee Alert: Wed., Mar. 22, 2006, 7:30: Environment 101
Dwight Merriam of Robinson, Cole and David Sutherland of The Nature Conservance, will
explore newly enacted environmental legislation providing funding for open spaces and
historical preservation, and affordable housing.**

Program Committee Annual Report 2005

In February 2005 the Trust cosponsored a mini-course of 6 lecture slide programs "The Changing Face of Connecticut" exploring issues important to our towns and to the future of land, air, and water quality in our state.

At the Annual Meeting in March 2005, Clem Clay, Connecticut River Program Director, Trust for Public Lands spoke about integrating local and regional land conservation priorities in the Great Meadows?"

In April, the Trust sponsored community forums in Glastonbury and Wethersfield featuring a presentation by Andrew C. French, Project Leader of the Silvio O. Conte National Fish and Wildlife Refuge: "Seeking Land Conservation Alternatives in the Great Meadows."

In May, our canoe/kayak paddles from Wethersfield Cove, Keeney Cove and Ferry Landing moved to Tuesday evenings.

In June the Trust cosponsored a celebration of the 350th Anniversary of the Rocky Hill Glastonbury Ferry--the nation's oldest continuously operating Ferry.

In October the Trust cosponsored the 17th Annual Nayaug Canoe & Kayak Race & Riverfront Celebration, part of the New England Canoe & Kayak Racing Association Point Series

Also in October the Trust cosponsored a meet the candidates night in Glastonbury.

E.A. Olson, Chair.

Land Management Committee Report 2005

Our parcels continue to be in good shape. Our parcel count now stands at 39 with an approximate acreage of 151. Twenty two parcels were inspected during the year. This is a great increase from previous years. Presently only eight parcels have not been inspected in the last five years.

Donna Ellis of UCONN Extension Service came over to the Wolf parcel with some of her beetle farmers to harvest Purple Loosestrife plants. Donna's volunteers raise the plants in their backyards, growing a crop of Galerucella beetles. These beetles are harvested and released to control Purple Loosestrife infestations in marshes around the state. Galerucella beetles were released on Mrs. Wolf's property a few years ago, and hopefully they will reduce this invasive plant in the area.

Work continues on the Wolf parcel to clean up the small grassy area near the DeMille easement. We had a couple of work days to cut down the shrubs. All Habitat Services, a licensed firm, began working in December to cut back on the encroaching forest, clear woody shrubs in the marshy area, and eradicate the Japanese knotweed patches. Their work, begun in December has been slowed by the high water. A USDA WHIP grant will reimburse the Trust for 75% of the cost of this work.

A major accomplishment this year is the updating of our Land Management plans. Our general plan was written by Charles Morgan in 2000, and has been revised to our present practice. This plan is now available on our web site for review. The Stewardship Plan for the Wolf parcel was written by Eleanor Wolf in 1978. This was updated to reflect present conditions on the parcel and our plans for cutting back on the encroachment of the forest. Please visit our website (www.gmct.org) and click on "Preserves" where you'll find descriptions of our parcels, and highlights, photos, and maps of our Wolf and Wood parcels.

Jim Woodworth continued to run our leasing program. A new farmer, Rick Botticello of Overbrook Farm, has started to lease some of our parcels in Point Meadow, Glastonbury, north of Route 3. Botticello raises corn in the meadows that he feeds to pigs on the farm in Manchester. George Purtill of Old Maids Farm, continues to raise organic vegetables on Trust land in Point Meadow. David Anderson grows sweet corn on the Wood Parcel in Wethersfield, Doug Morgan raises turf on parcels in Wethersfield and Rocky Hill, and Billy Collins of Fair View Farms raises beans and hay on Trust parcels in Rocky Hill.

We held five winter walks, with a total attendance of 36.

Larry Lunden, Chair

GMCT Membership Report For 2005

At the end of 2005, we had 138 Family or Individual Members and 47 Life Members.

We gained two new Life Members:

Gary Gagnon	Glastonbury
William Young	Glastonbury

New members in 2005:

Luella Daniels Landis	Cromwell
Victoria L. Hart	East Hartford
Leslie Bates & Ian Swinton	Glastonbury
Thomas Kehoe	Glastonbury
Stephen & Kim Brownell	Glastonbury
Michael & Diane Viveiros	Glastonbury
Dortha Cool Willetts	Middletown
Mary L. Lagana PhD	Wethersfield

Deceased Members in 2005:

William Lohman (member since 1989)	Glastonbury
Bruce MacLachlan (Life Member since 1999)	Glastonbury; Williamsburg MA
Chester Cole (member since 1970)	Rocky Hill
Ruth Chase (member since 1970; Life Member since 1981)	Wethersfield

Joan Mihm, Chair

Land Acquisition Report 2005

The Land Acquisition Committee has been active in contacting land owners in the Meadows to procure land. The committee continues to monitor land records in the three communities and several parcels in the meadows were inspected by members of both Land Acquisition and Land Management committees to evaluate them for potential acquisition. To accomplish the goal of preserving land in the meadows, the help of all members is vital.

Pamela St. Jean, Chair

Auditors Report – 2005

February 25, 2006

Great Meadows Conversation Trust, Inc.

To the Board of Directors:

We have reviewed the consolidated statements of cash flows for the one year period beginning January 1, 2005 and ending December 31, 2005. The statements were compared to bank and mutual fund statements, receipt, deposits, and disbursements. All documents were found to support the consolidated statement, as well as the year-end financial report.

In our opinion the financial statements and reports of GMCT's financial position for the period noted are presently fairly, in all material reports.

Ingrid Boelhouwer
359 Pine Lane
Wethersfield, CT



Neal Cox
42 Riverview Rd
Rocky Hill, CT



GMCT Treasurer 2005 Annual Report

Income	Budget	YTD Total	Balance
Membership Dues	\$1,600.00	\$1,850.00	\$250.00
Life Memberships	\$300.00	\$600.00	\$300.00
Contributions	\$1,500.00	\$2,650.00	\$1,150.00
Land Rental-Leases	\$2,000.00	\$2,965.00	\$965.00
U. Mass Study	\$25.00	\$65.00	\$40.00
Investment Interest	\$700.00	\$0.00	-\$700.00
Annual Dinner Meeting	\$700.00	\$475.00	-\$225.00
Grants	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	-\$1,000.00
Capital Campaign	\$500.00	\$1,215.00	\$715.00
Transfers From Vanguard	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Misc. Income	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Refunds	\$0.00	\$747.53	\$747.53
Total	\$8,325.00	\$10,567.53	\$2,242.53

Expenses	Budget	YTD Total	Balance
Administrative Costs	\$800.00	\$1,017.16	-\$217.16
Recording Secretary	\$1,575.00	\$0.00	\$1,575.00
Insurance	\$2,800.00	\$1,610.00	\$1,190.00
Newsletter/Printing	\$450.00	\$515.48	-\$65.48
Postage	\$300.00	\$281.20	\$18.80
Land Management	\$500.00	\$5.90	\$494.10
Land Acquisition	\$250.00	\$182.85	\$67.15
Awards & Gifts	\$100.00	\$32.60	\$67.40
Organization Membership	\$500.00	\$475.00	\$25.00
Annual Dinner Meeting	\$500.00	\$472.50	\$27.50
Transfers to Vanguard	\$450.00	\$0.00	\$450.00
New Initiatives	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
Total	\$8,325.00	\$4,592.69	\$3,732.31

Bank North Checking Account	01/01/05	01/01/06	Encumbered
	\$10,207.47	\$16,180.31	\$0.00

Vanguard Mutual Funds

Asset Class	Fund Values			Gain/Loss
Short Term Investments	01/01/05	01/01/06	2005	
<u>Prime Money Market</u>	\$55,120.70	\$60,777.40	\$5,656.70	*
<u>Bonds</u>				
GNMA Fund	\$14,832.37	\$14,633.46	-\$198.91	*
Balanced Index Fund - 40%	\$4,349.63	\$4,551.95	\$202.32	4.65%
Wellesley Income Fund - 65%	\$17,013.47	\$16,611.39	-\$402.08	*
Wellington Fund - 35%	\$9,935.00	\$9,987.65	\$52.65	*
Total	\$46,130.47	\$45,784.45	-\$346.02	*
<u>Stocks</u>				
Balanced Index Fund - 60%	\$6,524.44	\$6,827.91	\$303.47	*
Wellesley Income Fund -35%	\$9,161.10	\$8,944.59	-\$216.51	*
Wellington Fund - 65%	\$18,450.72	\$18,548.50	\$97.78	*
Convertible Securities	\$12,309.13	\$13,121.19	\$812.06	6.60%
Windsor Fund	\$11,316.70	\$11,881.52	\$564.82	4.99%
Total	57,762.09	\$59,323.71	\$1,561.62	
Grand Total	\$159,013.26	\$165,885.56	\$6,872.30	4.32%

* No percent gain/loss has been calculated for these funds since their earnings are transferred to the Prime Money Market.

GMCT Fund Earnings - These are the monies invested in the Vanguard Funds

	Values		Gain/Loss
	01/01/05	01/01/06	2005
Eleanor B. Wolf Land Preservation Fund	128,991.56	134,566.38	\$5,574.82
Operations Fund	30,021.70	31,319.20	\$1,297.50
Total	\$159,013.26	165,885.58	\$6,872.32



Great Meadows Conservation Trust, Inc.
P.O. Box 171
Glastonbury, Connecticut 06033



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