

Great Meadows Conservation Trust, Inc.
Glastonbury, Rocky Hill, Wethersfield, Connecticut

Volume XIX

January 2007

Trust Receives Gift of Land in Memory of Edward and Ann Hayes

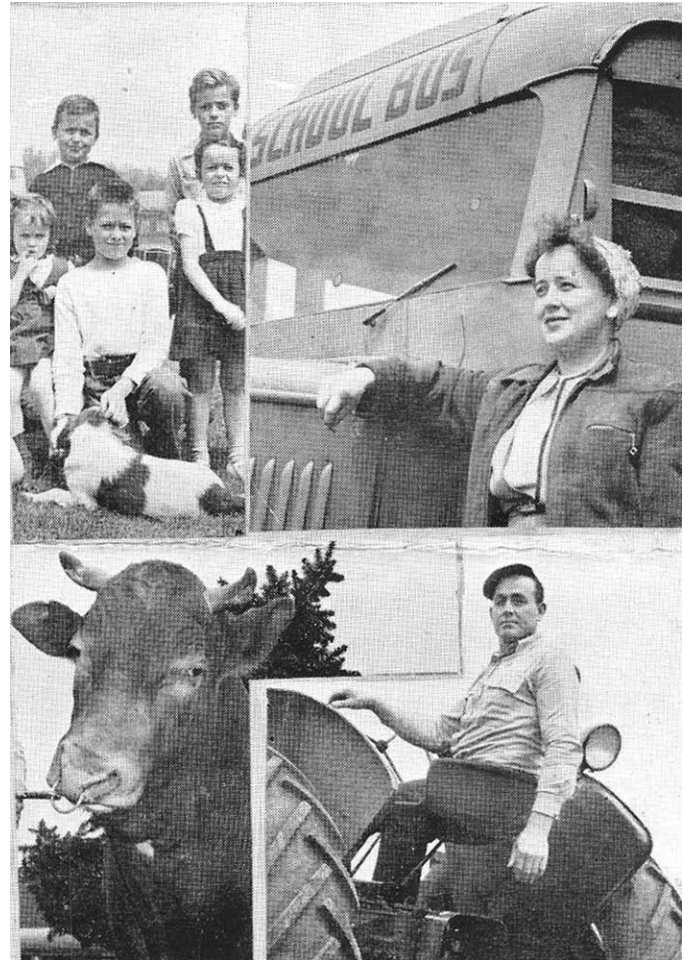
Ed Hayes, Sr., a local farm boy, purchased a large dairy farm in Rocky Hill in 1941. When the photographs at right were published in Wethersfield's Tally Magazine, June 1945, Ed was proud owner and operator of a 300 acre dairy farm, raising 55 acres of corn and 150 acres of hay. With the closing this week, the remaining acres of family farmland will be preserved by the Great Meadows Conservation Trust.

Five Hayes children, now living across the country, are giving the land in memory of their mother and father Edward and Ann Hayes. Under Trust stewardship the seven parcels, four in Rocky Hill and three in Wethersfield, approximately 20 acres, will be leased to local farmers. They will continue to produce beans, hay, vegetables and turf, supporting local agriculture, and bringing welcome annual income to the Trust.

The Hayes family is also donating an easement for hunting and fishing rights on the parcels to the Wethersfield Game Club, Inc. Joint stewardship of these parcels further enhances the cooperative relationship between the Trust and the Club.

In the photo at right, Edward Hayes, Sr., sits astride his Oliver tractor, while Ann Hayes poses in front of the school bus she drove. Pictured at right is Patricia, age 3, now Patricia Hayes Kotchen of California, and Mary Ann, age 6, now Mary Ann Anagnos of Massachusetts. Too young to be in the picture are Rose Marie Johnson of California, Julie Ann Gifford of MA, and Dennis Michael Hayes of Cromwell. They have fond childhood memories of haying in the meadows.

John Hayes, the tall blond 10 year old in the photo, grew up to own and run the family farm in the 60's. In October 2006 the Trust pur-



chased a three acre parcel from John, located on the river bank adjacent to the large family corn field, just upstream of the eagle's nest. Along with a stretch of river bank, the parcel also contains an irrigation access point for the large turf farm. John identifies the Guernsey bull in the photo as Son of Man of War.

Also in the photo are Ed, Jr., 12, now of CT, with Freckles the dog, and Tom, aged 8, who lived in Rocky Hill until his death in 2004.

Wood Parcel: Bench Set, Sign Moved--Bridge over Beaver Brook and Garden Plantings Next!



Thanks to Town Engineer Mike Turner and sign crew, our sign is planted next to the new parking spot on the Wood Parcel. Thanks to Contractor Scott DeAngelo, a walk along the path leads to a bench with a view of the marsh.

At left, Trust member Richard Prentice (and Wethersfield Mens' Garden Club's Mr. January) measures the space around the sign for a welcoming planting of native species. (Need another Back to Nature Calendar?! send check for \$15 to 204 Maple St., Wethersfield, CT 06109)

Coming soon: a bridge over the brook; stay tuned for grand opening!



Great Meadows Conservation Trust, Inc.
 P. O. Box 171
 Glastonbury, CT 06033
www.gmct.org

Join us for Winter Nature Walks in the Flood Plain

A special series of five walks are led by Jim Woodworth, president of the Great Meadows Conservation Trust, and Larry Lunden, GMCT's Land Management chair, and on the Regional Board of Connecticut Audubon Society Center at Glastonbury.

Please dress for weather and ground conditions, which may revise or cancel the walk.

These nature walks are again co-sponsored by Connecticut Audubon Society Glastonbury and the Great Meadows Conservation Trust, joined for the first time by the Wethersfield Nature Center—and all are free. Check www.gmct.org, or call the CAS Glastonbury Center at 860-633-8402 or the E.B.Wolf Nature Center at 860-529-3075 for the latest information.

#1 Sunday, January 7, 2 p.m.

Meet Larry Lunden behind Glastonbury Town Hall (2155 Main Street) for a short walk to GMCT's Preissner property.

#2 Saturday, January 13, 10 a.m.

Meet Jim Woodworth at the end of Goff Brook Lane (off Old Main Street in Rocky Hill) for a long walk to GMCT's newly acquired Hayes parcels—farm fields where beans, vegetables and turf are grown. Join us in celebrating this important gift from the Hayes family in honor of the late Edward P. Hayes, Sr. and Ann Hayes of Rocky Hill.

IT'S ALL ABOUT **WATER**

A series of six lecture/slide shows

Wed. evenings, 7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Jan. 3 - The Many Faces of Water, Walter Landgraf

Jan. 10 - Water 101, Virginia DiLima

Jan. 17 - The Painted Splash: Impressions of Water by Painters of the Lyme Art Colony, David Rau

Jan. 24 - Weather Management: Too Much or Too Little?, James MacBroom

Jan. 31 - Water Wars, Kirt Mayland

Feb. 7 - Water Riddles, Johan Varekamp

Per lecture: CAS members \$7, non-members \$10

Audubon Society, Center at Glastonbury
 1361 Main Street, Glastonbury CT 06033, 860-633-4885

#3 Saturday, January 20, 10 a.m.

Meet Jim Woodworth at Hockanum Park (on High Street in East Hartford) for a long walk to the GMCT's properties in the Hockanum Meadows with our host from Goodwin College, Todd Andrews. Learn about the "hook" in the Connecticut River that left behind the Wethersfield Cove, Keeney Cove and a triangle of Wethersfield "East."

#4 Sunday, January 28, 2 p.m.

Meet Jim Woodworth on Hartford Avenue (at the corner of Jordan Lane in Wethersfield) for a short walk to GMCT's Wolf parcel and DeMille easement. See habitat improvements made with the help of a WHIP grant. Stay for a longer walk up Hartford Ave. and out along the Hartford dyke that divides the Folly Brook Nature area from the South Meadows Industrial Park.

#5 Saturday, February 3, 10 a.m.

Meet Larry Lunden at the end of Point Road (off Naubuc Avenue in Glastonbury, south of Route 3 overpass) for a long walk to GMCT's Point Meadows properties. These are farming fields where corn and other crops are grown.



The January 22, 2006 Winter Walk, scheduled to inspect the Eleanor B. Wolf parcel in Wethersfield drew a big crowd. The parcel was flooded, so instead Jim Woodworth lead us to the dike around Brainard Field, a view few of us had ever seen before.

(photo by Duffy)