



Dunstable Rural Land Trust
401 Hollis Street
Dunstable, MA 01827

Dunstable Rural Land Trust

D.R.L.T. News Issue No. 12 April 2008



The Gregg Family Dedication & Recognition

It was a picture-perfect day on October 6, 2007 when the Dunstable Rural Land Trust formally recognized the contributions of sixty acres of land to the Trust. The ceremony took place on Main Street near Gregg Road on land donated by the Gregg Family. Approximately fifty people attended the ceremony, including the Gregg family (Catherine Gregg, Cy and Joyce Gregg, and United States Senator Judd Gregg), as well as trustees and friends of the Dunstable Rural Land Trust and the Gregg family.

Hugh and Catherine (Cay) Gregg initially donated forty acres of land in 2002 with the express intent to preserve and protect the open space where the family had called home for over fifty years. In 2006, two years after Hugh Gregg passed away, the Gregg family decided that it would like the remaining land in Dunstable to be permanently protected and made available to the public for walking and hiking. The Dunstable Rural Land Trust has permanently restricted use of this property by way of conservation restrictions to ensure compliance with the wishes of the Gregg Family. *(excerpt from www.drlt.org)*

In Memory of June Lund Tully

June 29, 1919 – March 8, 2008

June was born in Hollis, NH. She came to Dunstable in May 1938 when she married George E. Tully and made her home on the Tully Family Farm. June devoted her life to her husband of 70 years, her 7 children, 22 grandchildren and 32 great-grandchildren. She was an active member of Dunstable Grange #31, the Dunstable Seniors Club and the DRLT, of which she and George were founding members.

“Old Smokey”

By Charles Tully Jr., written for the Massachusetts State Grange News, February 2008

It was time to take on a personal project that I have been thinking about for a while now. I guess that I should start from the beginning. In April of 1939, the week that my father was born, my Grandfather and Great-Grandfather bought the first rubber tire tractor that the farm ever had. It was a Massey Harris 101 Sr. Over the years the tractor became known as “Old Smokey”. *(continued on p. 4)*



Photo credit: George & June’s Great-grandson, Jacob Tully, age 8

Winterfest 2008



Sunday, January 27th

Plenty of snow, ice and wintry weather made for a real winterfest! Great use was made of the sledding hill and the ice surface which was smooth & shoveled. Thanks to David Tully for preparing the ice for skaters.



Many people used the snow shoes and of course the 3 horse team pulling the sleigh was a favorite, as always.



Wonderful bonfire and refreshments were provided by the Boy Scouts. Mabel & Judy's chowder was a welcome treat!



Winterfest Button

The sale of the 3rd Annual Winterfest Button was a big success.

This is the second year that DRLT member Jeff Haight has worked with Ms. Melissa MacDonald's Graphic Design class at Westford Academy to design a button for us. Senior student Lindsay D'Angelo's snowflake design was the winner! Lindsay will be a nursing major at U. of Connecticut in September. Thanks to all!

Ferrari Farm

Final payment from DRLT \$12,500 made March 2007

In July 2007, The Trust for Public Land, together with the Town of Dunstable, the Dunstable Rural Land Trust and the Massachusetts Division of Conservation Services, completed the Ferrari Farm conservation project. With your help, we permanently protected 149 acres of beautiful forestland now known as Flatrock Hill Conservation Area.

Making a great success even better, the Read-Parkhurst house has been purchased by a local family and is being restored – the structures are protected with an historic preservation restriction.

To everyone who helped make this project a success – Thank you!!

Calendar of Member Events

Monday Morning Walks

April 28th, May 5th, 12th & 19th

Each week we'll explore a different DRLT or Town of Dunstable Conservation Area. There will be opportunities to walk a pre-existing trail or to blaze a new one. We'll leave town hall *promptly* at 9 a.m.

Hardman Garden Tour

417 Main Street

David Hardman has offered to host a tour of his beautiful new woodland gardens. This can be mid-May. We do need volunteers to help with planning, ticket sales & publicity. Please contact Elaine at 649-9236 or Judy at 649-9010 if you can help.

Winterfest 2009

Sunday, January 25, 2009 11 a.m.–3 p.m.

**Town Wide
Earth Day Celebration
“Clean Sweep Campaign”
April 19th -26th**



Earth Day Packets – Trash bags, gloves and Earth Day Stickers will be available at the Town Hall and the Library from April 16th and at the Transfer Station on Saturday, April 19th only.

Filled bags may be left along the road for the Highway Dept. to pick-up.

Please note that the bags must display the Earth Day Sticker in order to be picked up.

If you would like to organize a specific area in town to clean-up, contact:

Danice 978-649-4514, ext. 224 or Sue 978-649-6750.

2008 Calendars – \$2,000 Raised!

This year’s calendars featured Dunstable resident Jean Carpenter’s beautiful pen & ink drawings and watercolors of Dunstable of years gone by. Jeff & Justin Pallis of DS Graphics in Lowell printed the calendar. Thank you, Jeff, Justin & Joyce!!

There are a few calendars left – call Elaine at 649-9236 if you would like one.

Dunstable Rural Land Trust
401 Hollis Street Dunstable, MA 01827
Newsletter Produced by Grace Jeanes
Edited by Elaine Basbanes & Judy Larter



DRLT Board of Directors
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Please visit www.drilt.org

**Mark Haines, New England Barn Restoration Expert, to Speak at Annual Meeting –
Wednesday, April 23rd at the Nashua Country Club**



“Architecture and Restoration of New England Barns”
Mark Haines will give a presentation on the types of barns found in New England, focusing on their architecture and the time periods during which each form was prevalent. He will discuss how to sustain these gems with repairs for failing foundations to rotten timbers. Mark has been dismantling, rebuilding, and restoring old barns and homes since 1980.

The annual meeting is an open meeting – Friends and members are invited. Please join us at 6pm for a social hour followed by dinner at 7pm – Reservations required, \$45 per person. A short business meeting and our speaker follow dinner at 8pm. Everyone is welcome to attend the after dinner program – free of charge.

“Old Smokey”, continued from p. 1

The tractor stayed on the farm where it was used in the fields and woods until the late 1960's. At that time another family member sold it to a friend and equipment dealer in Mendon, MA, who then sold it to a farmer who also lived in Mendon. When this person passed away, I heard from a friend that the tractor was for sale and his family members thought that we should have a chance to own it again. So, since we were in Milford for a State Session, I decided to make a few phone calls to look at the tractor. I was not successful, but two days after we got home from State Grange I received a phone call and made arrangements to go back to see the tractor the following Sunday. I started to think about it and realized that I was not going to be able to handle this project alone, so I decided to bring Billy Chase (one of the State Master's sons) in on my plan for help. On November 5th we went to Mendon with trailer in tow, looking very desperate, hoping that we could bring “Old Smokey” home again. When we walked in to the barn cellar our hearts dropped, what was supposed to be a tractor that ran and was in good shape turned out to be not running and not in very good shape. However, it was THE tractor that was bought in 1939, so we decided to buy it and bring it home, where it belonged.

We tried to sneak home with it, and almost made it, until we turned on to our street when Cal and Linda turned up the street in front of us and Aunt Virginia turned up right the street in front of us and Aunt Virginia turned up right behind us. This was to be a surprise for Christmas, so we made them swear to keep quiet until then. It became very clear that we would need more help, so we hid the tractor in Billy's garage and brought our uncle George into the loop. After two nights, some new wires, plugs, a new battery, and a few other parts, they started it up, shooting acorns everywhere. It ran smooth and quiet. This was just what we needed to motivate us to complete the project.

Although the tractor was running, we knew that there was still a lot of body work to be done. Billy started off taking off everything that the previous owner had added to the tractor. Then we stripped the sheet metal off and began looking for fenders, a grill and side panels. We found new side panels and fenders in PA. The side panels were shipped to us, but we did not have enough time to wait for the fenders so Billy and his wife Vicky left for PA at 4:00 am and returned by 4:00 pm to begin working on them. The last missing piece of the puzzle was the grill, we could not find one anywhere, so Billy made one. Which he then threw away and made another. The second looked great and was attached. Over the next few weeks we moved the tractor to a friends shop in Townsend and with their help finished the body work. This was all done late at night or on Sundays when

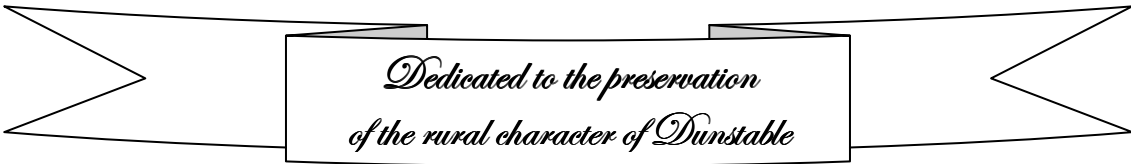
nobody would see what was going on. On December 11th the first coat of paint went on, followed by several others that week. On Sunday the 17th with time running out we reassembled the tractor. The final coat of paint went on followed by the decals the following night. What a sight, it was perfect, just like new. On Thursday night, again under the cover of darkness the tractor was brought back and hid in Billy's garage.

On December 23rd our family had our annual Christmas party at our house. There were about 90 family members there waiting for Santa to bring all of the little kids a present. Santa had another surprise for Grampa, Massey Ferguson sent a customer appreciation package, including a thank you note, a plaque, hat key chain, and money clip. Shortly after he opened his present, Santa asked Grampa to come outside with him because the rest of his present was coming down the road. First came our newest tractor a Massey Ferguson 6485 (4wd with cab and flashing lights all over) followed by “Old Smokey”, complete with a police escort with flashing lights. As we turned up the driveway it looked as if all of the people coming out of the house were ants coming out of an ant hill. Grampa knew exactly what it was when he saw it coming up the driveway and was very happy to have it home again. He could not believe that the tractor was completely restored in just 50 days, without having anyone let on to what was going on.

You might ask what all of this has to do with the Grange. My Grandfather has been a member of the Grange for over 70 years, and this event brings together what I consider the two most important things in the Grange, family and agriculture. And since the Worthy State Master is encouraging us to get “back to our roots”, I thought this is a perfect example of what we can accomplish when we work together with a common goal.



A permanent stone marker has been placed on the property in the name of the Hugh Gregg Family, recognizing their contribution of land to the Trust.



This meeting is open to ALL Members & Friends!

Dunstable Rural Land Trust

Annual Meeting

Wednesday, April 23, 2008

Nashua Country Club

25 Fairway Street Nashua, NH

6 p.m. Cocktails

7 p.m. Dinner

8 p.m. Business Meeting

Followed by our speaker, Mark Haines, "Architecture and Restoration of New England Barns"

Presentation on the types of barns found in New England, focusing on their architecture and the time periods during which each form was prevalent.

Everyone is welcome to attend the after dinner program free of charge.

Reservations must be made in advance for dinner.



Dinner Reservations (Please write number in box): \$ _____ enclosed for _____ dinners at \$45 each.

Steak Ernesto – 7 oz. filet crowned with duchess potato & baby vegetables with a roasted mushroom demi-glace.

Baked Haddock – With lemon & white wine, topped with a shrimp dill stuffing

**George Tully, DRLT
401 Hollis Street**

Please return your reservation no later than April 18th to: **Dunstable, MA 01827**

2008 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FORM

**Membership
makes a
difference!**

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Annual Individual/Family Membership \$25

I would like to make an additional contribution of \$ _____ to support land preservation in Dunstable.

Total Enclosed \$ _____

The Dunstable Rural Land Trust is a 501 (c) (3) public charity. Gifts are tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law. Thank you for your support.

Remember, you will not save the Dunstable woods and wetlands, broad vistas and country roads for your children and grandchildren by doing NOTHING. Instead, please join us and become a member today!

Please return FORM with check made payable to: DRLT

Please Send to: George Tully, DRLT
401 Hollis Street
Dunstable, MA 01827

**PLEASE RENEW YOUR
MEMBERSHIP!**



PLEASE JOIN US!

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Please Visit our website – www.drlt.org