



Conservation Easements: A Lifeline for Birds

By Kathy Parker

As a board member with the Oconee River Land Trust, I've had the chance to visit land where we hold conservation easements, often to document the birdlife. When I entered one property through open pine woodland this spring, I was greeted by the familiar black and gold breast of an Eastern Meadowlark [Figure 1], its beak bursting open in song. On another property last fall, migrating Wood Thrushes [Figure 2] darted back and forth across the driveway, from a buffet of native dogwood (*Cornus florida*) and beautyberry (*Callicarpa americana*) fruits, to the protective cover of the nearby forest. Both birds help tell a tale of the enormous conservation value of land protected through partnerships between land trusts and private landowners.

Many bird species have experienced population declines in the last half century—some, relatively dramatic. Scientists at Cornell Lab of Ornithology estimate that the number of birds overall that inhabit North America today is a mere 70% of what it was in 1970. That's a loss of over 3 billion birds in 50 years! Losses have been uneven across bird families and ecosystems. Over two-thirds of the population reduction is concentrated in only 15 families, including birds we often think of as common,

like finches and blackbirds. Migratory birds have shown greater declines than species that don't migrate [Figures 3, 4 (see pages 6 & 7)]. Migrants depend on quality habitats where they breed, but just as crucial is habitat availability where they winter and stop for rest and refueling during migration. With both land-use change and warming climates, the distribution of habitats suitable for migratory birds shrinks and shifts, making it harder for birds to find food and other necessities.

Birds of grasslands and eastern forests have been particularly hard-hit. Nearly three-quarters of the bird species that occur in grasslands have declined in population size. For example, the number of Eastern Meadowlarks has fallen 75% since 1970. Meadowlarks and other species that inhabit pastures, weedy margins of crop fields, and other grass-dominated environments have been adversely affected by changes in farming over the last half-century. Many bird-friendly small farms with hedgerows, weedy margins, and a diversity of fields have been replaced by urban development or industrial-scale farming operations with larger, tidier fields of monocultures—a landscape that is not as effective at providing birds with the food and safe nesting sites they need.

Similarly, over 60% of the bird species that inhabit eastern forests have shown population declines in the last 50 years. Wood Thrushes are considered to be particularly sensitive to changes that occur as large continuous tracts of forest become more fragmented with changes in land use and climate. After habitat loss and increased fragmentation, birds in remaining forest patches often have lower rates of survival and breeding success. Disturbance is typically greater along edges of smaller forests. Non-native plants more easily invade the forest interior, replacing native shrubs that are more nutritious for birds. Access to high-quality fruit is especially crucial to Wood Thrushes during their fall migration, when fruit constitutes a greater proportion of their diet. Smaller fragments also tend to have more nest parasites (i.e., Brown-headed Cowbirds) and small mammalian predators (e.g., raccoons and feral cats), which prey on ground- or shrub-nesters, including Wood Thrushes.

In addition to their aesthetic value, birds are important in terms of both direct monetary worth and the more intangible ecosystem services they provide. Make no mistake—birds are big business! The U.S. Fish and Wildlife

... continued on page 6



Kathy Parker

Figure 1. Eastern Meadowlark on a small private grassland.



Kathy Parker

Figure 2. Swainson's Thrush on deciduous forest protected with an ORLT-held conservation easement.

Upcoming Events

Tallassee Forest Monitoring Hike
November 12, 2022

Lecture by Janisse Ray:
"The Art of a Place Called Longleaf"
at the Georgia Museum of Art
November 17, 2022 5:30-6:30
co-sponsored by ORLT

Stay tuned for upcoming Spring outings,
including a special birding hike.

Visit www.oconeeriverlandtrust.org
for more information

DIRECTOR'S UPDATE



Fall is finally here, with its drier cool air, an invitation to get outside and enjoy that blue sky. ORLT's hikes are an opportunity to do just that on land permanently conserved by ORLT, and I am glad so many of you have joined us. We are fortunate enough to work with generous landowners who invite us to share their beautiful conservation land with our members for these events. I know I appreciate these in-person physical reminders of why we do land conservation. Walking through the protected forest, noticing the changing beech leaves, hearing the stream running beside the trail, and seeing the flash of a rose-breasted grosbeak, brings home the reality of what we do in a way that even photos can't: the very real benefits and beauty generated by protected farms, forests and streams. Ninety percent of Georgia is privately owned, so having access to these special places is a rare treat for us and much appreciated.

ORLT's last member's hike of the year, on the 304-acre Tallassee Forest Nature Preserve, is a little different – it's on one of three ORLT conservation easements preserved for community greenspace. Hikers joining us for this event will not just be enjoying the scenery, but also helping ORLT monitor the property. ORLT is responsible for monitoring each one of its 211 conservation easements every year, and when you have over 43,000 acres protected, you appreciate all the help you can get! Tallassee Forest Nature Preserve is not yet open to the public, but is slated to open after SPLOST-funding becomes available in 2031. We will continue to update you on the progress of the Preserve in a section in this newsletter we are calling Tracking Tallassee, as we work to support park planning and implementation.

For a different kind of outing, join us on November 17 at 5:30 pm at the Georgia Museum of Art for a talk by noted author Janisse Ray, co-sponsored by ORLT. Her talk, entitled "The Art of a Place Called Longleaf", will guide us through the endangered ecosystem's rich past and present conservation efforts, as well as offer ways to see and appreciate other special places. Appreciating and loving special places in Georgia is the foundation of ORLT's work, and we hope that you, too, will find inspiration at one of ORLT's fall events. ■

—Steffney Thompson
Executive Director

Environmental law professor joins ORLT board

By Roger Nielsen

University of Georgia environmental law professor Cathy Clutter joined the Oconee River Land Trust Board of Directors this spring.

A member of the UGA School of Law's legal writing faculty, Clutter teaches environmental law for natural resources majors and an upper-level environmental law drafting course. She's also taught for a number of years in UGA's Discover Abroad program, focusing on sustainability and natural resource management in Australia and New Zealand. This experience solidified her professional and personal interest in sustainability efforts and incorporating these principles into the curriculum of the courses she teaches.

Clutter has maintained a relationship with the land trust for several years, having invited ORLT's Executive Director, Steffney Thompson— herself an attorney – to give a presentation introducing the environmental law students to the role of conservation easements in preserving land and water quality and in filling a gap left by traditional environmental law regulations.

Clutter was instrumental in getting the environmental law course certified as fulfilling the UGA Environmental Literacy requirement and as meeting one element of the university's Sustainability Certificate. She has served on the editorial board for the State Bar of Georgia's Environmental Law Section newsletter and is a member of the American Bar Association's Environmental Law Section.

She is a magna cum laude graduate of the UGA School of Law. She has practiced law with firms in Athens and Savannah, and she served as legal counsel for the UGA Office of the Vice President of Research from 1999 to 2003. Clutter and her husband, Mike, a former dean of UGA's Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources, reside in Athens. ■



Cathy Clutter

Oconee River Land Trust

— Board of Directors —

Ken Jarrett, Chair
Kathy Parker, Vice-Chair
Madeline Van Dyck, Treasurer
Roger Nielsen, Secretary

■
Bill Berryman
Cathy Clutter
Daniel Hope
Nat Kuykendall
Karen Middendorf
Hans Neuhauser
Karen Porter
John Willis
Smith Wilson

— Staff —

Steffney Thompson
Executive Director

Laura Hall
Conservation Director

Dan Crescenzo
Stewardship Director

Theresa Pippin
Outreach Director

Hadrien Turner
Land Steward

Sammy Pickering
Land Steward

Finding Fungi: Notes from the Field

By Laura Hall and Shelagh Curmi

(Shelagh worked with ORLT as part of a 6-week fellowship from the Trust for Nature, a land trust in Victoria, Australia)

Fall is the time when fungi start to emerge as the days become cooler and shorter. The number and varieties of fungi is enormous, and the colors and shapes are beautiful and intriguing. With names like wood ear, dog vomit, octopus stinkhorn and bird's nest fungus what's not to like?

As I walk many acres of conservation land, I am seeing so many more, and diverse mushrooms during the past few years. The images included with this article show several of the mushrooms you may see in our area.

Many mushrooms are used for culinary and medicinal purposes. If you're in a place where harvesting is allowed, make sure to bring a knowledgeable person or a good field guide to identify them, as there can be subtle differences. Certain mushrooms are used for a variety of purposes including: removing toxins, increasing energy, strengthening the organs responsible for the immune system, supporting liver, lung and spleen function and healthy joints with strong antioxidant properties, the healing of cancer, auto immune issues, dementia, stress and depression.

Mushrooms are not actually plants, but belong to the kingdom fungi, which also includes rust, mold, mildew, and yeast. Biologically, they are in between animals and plants. Their cell walls are made of chitin- a substance never found in plants- which makes them more like insects.

The part of the mushroom that one sees above ground is the fungus that produces spores for reproduction. But most of the organism exists underground as mycorrhizae – the fungal version of roots. As the mycelium expand into an underground cottony web, they decompose dead plant matter, helping to break down fallen logs, branches, and fallen leaves, returning them to soil. In this way, mushrooms recycle and assist the life of the forest. In addition to helping decompose plant matter, fungi often form symbiotic relationships with living plants nearby. The fungi receive their nutrients/carbohydrates from their host plant and the mycorrhizae increase the plant's roots ability to absorb water and nutrients. The fungi provide other benefits for trees and other plants, such as filtering out heavy metals, which are less detrimental to the fungi than to the tree's roots. Additionally, some mycorrhizae protect their host plants from pathogens. Many plants cannot survive without their symbiotic mycorrhizae.

Some species of fungi – such as the turkey tail shown on page 6 – will utilize a variety of plants, whereas others will only grow on a single species ('host' specific). The mushroom Birch Polypore, *Piptoporus betulinus*, is found almost exclusively on birch trees.

One tree can have many different fungi present in its root system. Oaks, for instance, will have a diversity of fungi, including chanterelles, which are popular in the Athens area in early fall. Diversity provides security for old forests, and the fungi help ensure a variety of species in a forest as they offer support from below.

... continued on page 6



Lion's mane, *Hericium erinaceus*. Lion's mane seen on a conservation easement in Oglethorpe County.

Michael Kuo



Turkey tail, *Trametes versicolor*, *Coriolus versicolor*, or *Polyporus versicolor*. Over 120 species of turkey tail exist.

Laura Hall

Prescribed Fire for Conservation of Natural Resources

By Dr. JT Pynne, Wildlife Biologist

Forest Fire Introduction

When most people think of fire on the landscape, they immediately think of huge western wildfires which are extremely severe and intense. Intensity and severity are two common terms used to describe fire behavior and effects, respectively. Western fires are often very intense, with large flames that consume trees entirely, and very severe, meaning they consume a lot of fuel in the area, which causes extreme damage to the landscape, infrastructure, and even human lives. In many areas in the U.S., fuel has built up over time due to fire suppression, which results in fires with higher intensity and more severity. More recently, climate change is resulting in hotter temperatures, longer droughts, and larger fires which also contribute to severity and intensity of fires and decrease forests' ability to recover. However, fires are not always so intense or severe that they damage forests and threaten infrastructure. On the contrary, fires of lesser severity and intensity are important for ecosystem health, species diversity, and wildlife habitat, and can actually help landowners manage their land, rather than being a threat to it.

Fires are a Natural Part of Forest Ecosystems

The natural world has been dealing with fire for millennia because it is a natural occurrence. "Dealing with" fire means that plants and animals have adapted to fire. Fires consume plants as fuel, so many of them have adapted to survive. Fires lead to higher biodiversity of resilient plants that actually require the disturbance. We can think of fire's relationship with these plants as a cycle (called a positive feedback loop). Fire "weeds out" less resilient plants, but provides bare ground for colonization by resilient species. Fires also cycle nutrients back into the soil, so the plants that put more energy into developing their root systems get nutrients like carbon and phosphorus as they are cycled through the fire feedback loop.



JT Pynne

Fires effect wildlife too, mostly for the better. Animals have also evolved alongside fire. When fire approaches, animals know how to escape, emigrate, or hideout underground. Those diverse and resilient plants are important for wildlife because herbivores and omnivores need a wide variety of forage, and predators need those herbivores well-fed for sustenance. Fire disturbance leads to increases in both forage quality and forage diversity. The increase in forage diversity leads to increased insect diversity, since many species of insects depend on specific species to complete their life cycles. Increased plant diversity in the understory also creates more food for pollinators, and increased insect populations provide food for many other wildlife species.

Western Forest Fires vs Southern Forest Fires

Almost every ecosystem on Earth has experienced fire in its geologic history. The frequency of fires, however, is variable and is dependent on land cover and structure. For example, the giant sequoias may experience stand-replacing fires every couple hundred years on smaller scales, when all of the trees in that particular stand are consumed and then new sprouts can potentially grow. Conversely, southeastern U.S. pine forests can tolerate fire every year. In general, several smaller scale fires occurring spottily across the landscape is more aligned with the North American historical fire regimes. Fires were caused by lightning and lit by native tribes. Indigenous people started fires for wildlife management, agriculture, to clear areas for buildings, and several other reasons.

Reasons for Using Prescribed Fires

Why would we continue to utilize and work alongside fire? That's easy: It provides several benefits. First, prescribed fire is a helpful land management tool. Land managers can conduct prescribed fires – controlled burns that land managers ignite under a controlled weather and safety prescription – to manage the land without much equipment or need for herbicides. Having barriers that do not carry fire like roads, dozer lines, disked soil, or rivers and streams, is important within that prescription.



JT Pynne

Second, prescribed fires help reduce fuel in forests, so that when accidental or lightning-caused fires do occur, they are less severe and intense and more easily contained. Instead of burning out of control, damaging the soil and killing even fire resistant plants, and possibly spreading to nearby land causing damage to structures or livestock, accidental or lightning-caused fires that start on fire-managed land can be easily stopped by backfires. Therefore, prescribed burning both protects forest health and reduces potential loss of life and property on nearby land.

Third, prescribed fires increase biodiversity and wildlife habitat, an effect of fire well-documented in the scientific literature. More plants and more animals are present in areas that are frequently burned. For example, longleaf pine ecosystems require a fire every one to three years to maintain more than 100 different plant species in any given 1 square meter. The increase in flora increases value to fauna as well. Other southern pine forests are adapted to frequent fires as well – the loblolly/shortleaf pine ecosystems of the Piedmont also support higher flora and fauna diversity when burned frequently. In the North Georgia mountains, fire is necessary to create habitat for Ruffed Grouse. Burned pine and hardwood forests produce large quantities of seeds for Wild Turkey and Northern Bobwhite, palatable forage for white-tailed deer and eastern spotted skunks, and more dense forbs for eastern cottontail and fox squirrel cover, to name a few examples.

Resources

There are several resources for landowners or land managers to begin working with fire to support their land conservation practices. First, get in contact with your local Georgia Forestry Commission (GFC) office and learn about the resources available. GFC issues permits for managers conducting prescribed fires, as long as the weather is safe. GFC has prescription plans where managers fill out size and location of burn, goals, fuel characteristics, safety information, fire-specific weather conditions, and several other factors that are necessary to know before ignition. In Georgia, having this plan and a permit from GFC decreases liability risk substantially. Also, contact a private lands biologist with Georgia Wildlife Federation, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, or another organization to get plans for wildlife and forestry management. ■



JT Pynne

Member Hike Recap

Thank you to those of you who have joined us on a recent member hike! In September, approximately 25 hikers joined us as we explored 800 acres of protected land located at the confluence of Hard Labor Creek and the Apalachee River in Morgan County. Along the hike, we spotted a pawpaw tree, spicebush, ladies' tresses orchids and even a canebrake rattlesnake. Then, in October, members joined us on a conservation easement in Bank County where we encountered many rare and significant plants, including bigleaf snowbell and white turtlehead. We hope to continue to see many of you out on the land on one of our future hikes!



Theresa Pippin

Tracking Tallassee

In 2020, Athens-Clarke County (ACC) accepted ORLT's proposal to use SPLOST (Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax) funds to open Tallassee Forest Nature Preserve to the public for outdoor recreation opportunities. ACC owns the Tallassee Forest Nature Preserve property, while ORLT holds the conservation easement for this natural area located on the Middle Oconee River.

We know many of our members and friends are as eager as we are to see this special greenspace opened for community members to enjoy. For now, we remain patient, with funding for the approximately \$2.85M project scheduled to be collected in Tier 11 which is July 1, 2030-June 31, 2031, and planning for the park likely kicking-off in winter 2031. Until then, the property is not open to the public. In the meantime, ORLT monitors Tallassee on an annual basis to ensure habitats stay intact and there are no violations occurring on the property.



Laura Hall

REI staff from the Athens store accompanied ORLT staff on a monitoring hike at Tallassee Forest. With a keen interest in local outdoor activities, REI reached out to ORLT to discuss partnering opportunities. On the hike, we found a common connection over discussions of community and conservation.

Finding Fungi ... continued from page 3

There are about 1000 recorded species of macro-fungi recorded in Georgia (Nakhutsrishvili, 2007); Macrofungi refers to all fungi that produce visible fruiting bodies. Most poisonings only occur from about 20. The following resources are helpful for identifying fungi, which can, at times, be tricky to differentiate from one another: *Mushrooms of Georgia Piedmont and Southern Appalachians: A Reference* (Wormsloe Foundation Nature Books), *Mushrooms of the Southeast* (A Timber Press Field Guide), and the website trygreenrecipes.com.

The ethics of mushroom harvesting, as is true when harvesting other wild fruits and food, is to leave the mushrooms unless they are growing in abundance, and then to take less rather than more. One way to do this is to follow the example of the Indigenous people along the coast of Georgia who had a marking system by bending the sweetgrass to identify which communities of plants had already been harvested from, and then one would know to continue on to another area for harvest (see 'Braiding Sweetgrass' by author Robin Wall Kimmerer). ■



Shelagh Curm

L-R: The golden chanterelle, *Cantharellus cibarius*. The golden chanterelle can be found in our area between July and December; American titan, *Macrocybe titans*. This mushroom is the largest in North America; Reishi, *Ganoderma lingzhi*. Some of the hardwood trees that Reishi loves to break down include Oak, Elm, Beech, Maple, and Hemlock. Photo taken on a preserved property near the Altamaha River.

Lifeline for Birds ... continued from page 1

Service estimates that birdwatchers spend about \$7 billion annually on gear and supplies related to birdwatching. That's three times the substantial amount already spent by migratory-bird hunters.

Much avian worth, however, is harder to assign a dollar value. Birds pollinate many plant species and disperse seeds when they consume fruits and deposit the seeds elsewhere. Particularly when parent birds have hungry young mouths to feed, they voraciously eat many insects we consider to be pests. An underappreciated service is the removal of carrion by our many avian scavengers, thereby helping control potential spread of some diseases. The potential loss of these services is more profound since many declining birds are among our more common species. The magnitude of loss of services they provide may therefore be greater, thanks to the sheer number of birds involved. Economic ecologists have suggested measuring farm value not just in terms of commodities produced, but also in terms of conservation success, hence the services that birds and other wildlife provide to gain a more accurate picture of their true worth.

Partnerships between land trusts and private landowners are an important part of the solution to bird population declines, particularly since about 85% of both grasslands in the U.S. and forests in the Southeast [Figures 5, 6 – see page 7] are privately owned. According to recent estimates, the acreage of land privately protected through conservation easements is similar to the amount of land included in the national parks—an impressive number that is rapidly growing.



Kathy Parker

Figure 3. Golden-crowned Kinglet, a bird that breeds in boreal forests, as shown here, but is common in Georgia and the rest of the southeastern U.S. during the winter.

Protecting even a small percentage of high-priority habitats can make a significant difference in stabilizing bird populations, particularly with changing climates, thereby reducing the threat of extinction and the loss of services birds provide.

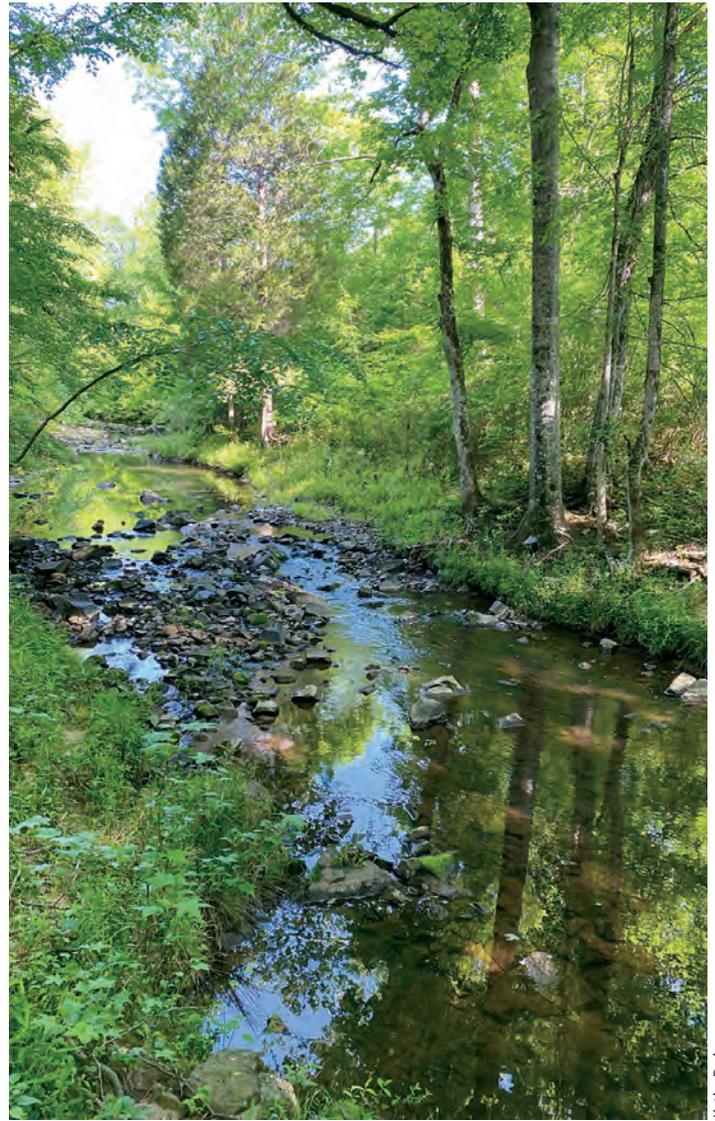
With most conservation easements, landowners retain ownership of their land and are able to use it to generate an income. They agree to preserve habitats considered high priority for wildlife and protection of water quality but are able to log and farm the land outside of these sensitive areas. Such partnerships provide birds and other wildlife with the landscape connections they need to adjust to changing climate and other conditions. In return for their commitment to preservation, landowners can receive a significant tax benefit. The result is protection of private land, including its critical wildlife habitats, in perpetuity—a win-win situation.

Conservationist Aldo Leopold recognized that the preservation of in-tact ecosystems depended on private-land conservation. In *A Sand County Almanac*, he commented, “When the land does well for its owner, and the owner does well by his land; when both end up better by reason of their partnership, we have conservation.” Such is the nature, and value, of conservation easements. ■



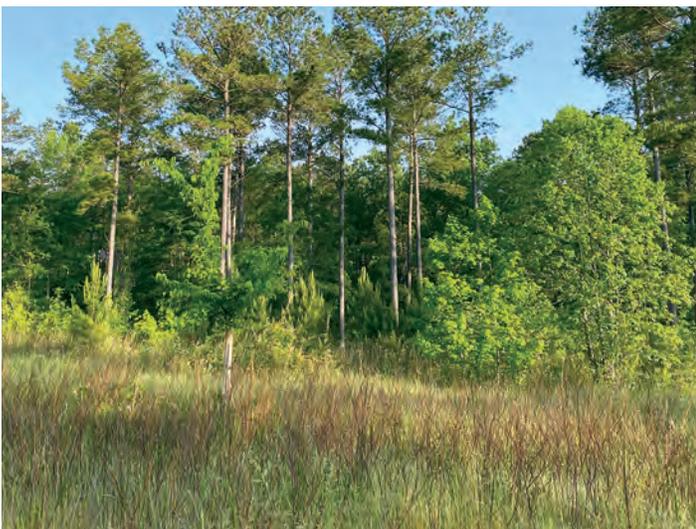
Kathy Parker

Figure 4. Baltimore oriole, a migratory species most often seen as it passes through Georgia during spring and fall migration.



Kathy Parker

Figure 6. Deciduous forest on land with an ORLT-held conservation easement. Many birds that migrate through Georgia to their northern breeding grounds depend on in-tact habitat like this during their spring and fall migrations.



Kathy Parker

Figure 5. Land with an ORLT-held conservation easement that is managed for ground-nesting birds—open woodland with grasses and other herbs in the understory.

Resources for Landowners

The following programs and organizations can help landowners implement conservation practices that will support bird habitat:

- Georgia Department of Natural Resources Wildlife Resources Division Landowner Programs

- Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Conservation Programs

- The Longleaf Alliance

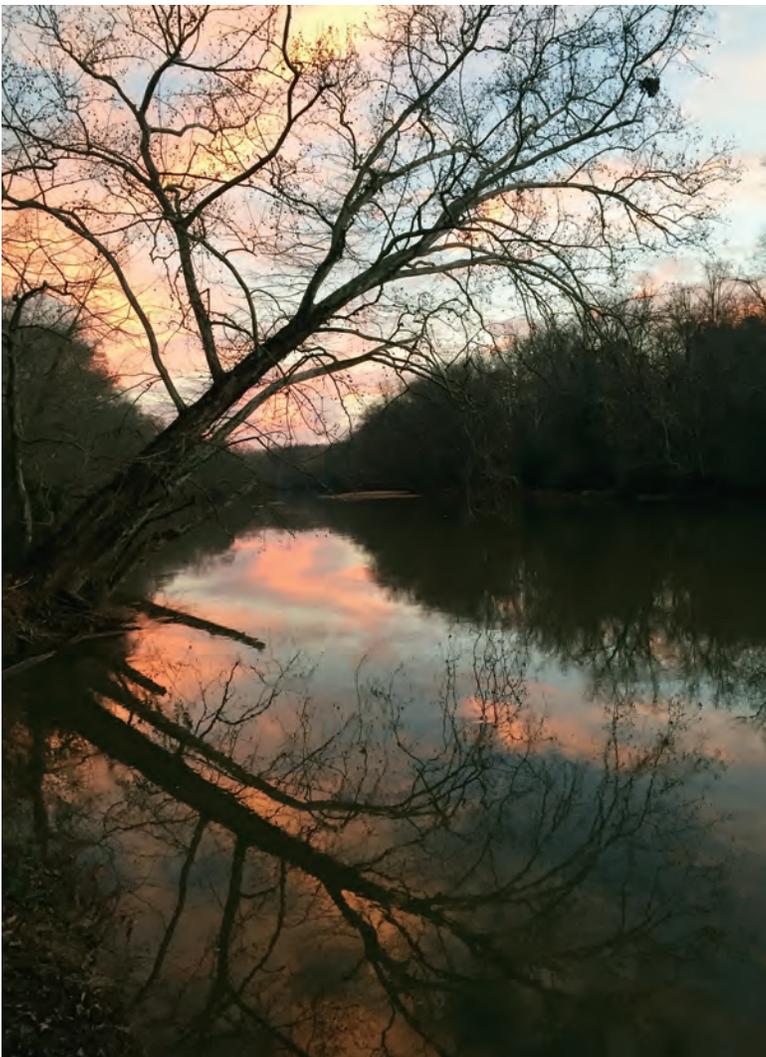
Remembering ORLT Founding Board Member Al Ike

We fondly remember Al Ike, who passed away at age 89 in April of this year. With a sincere interest in environmental stewardship, Al was a founding board member and longstanding chairman of ORLT. In 1960, Al and his wife Ruth moved to Athens, where he worked in a US Forest Service research lab on the campus of UGA. He later served as Associate Professor of Parks and Outdoor Recreation at UGA before being promoted to Associate Director of the Institute for Community and Area Development. He completed his long tenure at UGA as Associate Vice President for Public Service and Outreach. In addition to his work with ORLT, Al served on the boards of the Georgia Conservancy and Sandy Creek Nature Center. Al is remembered for being a genuine and natural leader, and for setting the course for ORLT at our founding nearly 30 years ago. ■



Al Ike (on left) shaking Walt Cook's hand after Walt donated ORLT's very first conservation easement in 2000.

Photo by ORLT



Mark Huber

Donations to ORLT in Memoriam

We are thankful for the following donations, made in memory of loved ones:

Mike and Liz Conroy made a gift to ORLT in memory of Laura Grace Conroy (1991-2016) who loved trees and wildlife and knew land must be protected for nature to thrive.

In honor of Al Ike, founding board member and stalwart chairman of ORLT, the following individuals and families made a gift:

Walt Cook
Larry Dendy
Marianna and Roger Habisreulinger
William and Linda Hassell
Susan Huff
David and Harriet Ike
John David Ike
Susu and George Johnson
Cathy Lewson
Dr. and Mrs. Richard Morawetz
The Murphy Family
The Pellegrino Family
The Webb Family
Mike Wood

ORLT MEMBERSHIP LIST



Thank you to our ORLT Members! Your support helps us continue our work of ensuring that there are green spaces, local farms, and clean water for future generations.

W.J. and Crista Albertson	Stephen E and Anne M Craven	Jason Jones	Mark Ralston
Anonymous	John and Judi Crescenzo	Erik Jones	Lynn Rivenbark
The Anonymous Fund, a Donor Advised Fund of the Athens Area Community Foundation	Gary Crider	Carl Jordan	Thomas Rodgers
Jack and Jane Armistead	John and Carol Cuff	Laura and Martin Kagel	Art Rosenbaum and Margo Newmark
Atlas Spine and Balance	David and Dorinda Dallmeyer	Tammy and William Kemper	Gene and Laura Ruffin
Chris Aubry and Mary Lopez	Heidi Davison	Douglas Kleiber	Garth and Natalie Russo
June Ball	O.C. and Manita Dean	Josh Koons	Andrew Saunders
Wally Emerson and Martha Barton	Larry Dendy	Nat Kuykendall	Carolyn Schneider
Nicholas and Jane Bath	Dan and Marie DerVartanian	Nancy Lindbloom	Lois Shackelford
Carrol and Virginia Beavers	Brian and Keira Drake	Suzanne Lindsay	Larry and Diane Shimkets
Bill Berryman	Mack and Julie Duncan	Elizabeth Little	Janice Simon
Bob and Nancy Bostrom	Katherine Edison	Tim Homan and Page Lutrell	Drew Sinclair
Maxine and Bob Burton	Leslie Edwards	Rick Maggiore	Margaret Spalding
Emily Carr	Dick and Susan Field	Janice Matthews	Sue Speir
Bob Carson	Rob and Barbara Fisher	Hubert McAlexander	Terry Stewart
Lief Carter	Sarah and Jack Frierson	Ken Cordell and Babs McDonald	Kay Giese and David Sweat
Christopher Cenkner	James Frix	Karen Middendorf	The Todd Emily Community Fund at the Athens Area Community Foundation
Linda Chafin	Bruno Giri	Gregory Mitsoff	Madeline Van Dyck
Celeste Condit	Carl Glickman	Clint and Mary Moore	Tammy Waddell
Mike and Liz Conroy	Genevieve Guzman	Dr. and Mrs. Richard Morawetz	Richard and Clare Watson
Walter Cook	Tommie Hall	Chuck and Suzanne Murphy	Mary Lillie and Ray Watson
Madelaine Cooke	Linda and William Hassell	Martha Myers	Walter and Susan Wellman
Steve and Susan Cooper	Nina Hellerstein	Pam Nesmith	David and Helen Wenner
Erin Cork	Kay and Larry Hess	Hans and Mary Lou Neuhauser	Richard and Jean Westmacott
Gail Cowie	Amanda Hodge	Jim and Dorothy Newland	Mike and Cathy Wharton
Betty Jean Craige	Dan and Ann Hope	Roger Nielsen	Ed and Sue Wilde
	Pierre Howard	Phil Novinger	John and Judy Willis
	Vince Howard	Michael Odum	Smith Wilson
	Mark Huber	Marisa Pagnattaro	Rob and Carol Winthrop
	Cecil and Sandra Hudson	Al and Kathy Parker	Mike Wood
	Susan Huff	Robert Pazdro	John Workman and Jeannine Collins
	David and Harriet Ike	Penelope Pease	Brown Widener and Kathy Wright
	John Ike	Chris and Sarah Peterson	Maureen O'Brien and George Wright
	Sujata Iyengar	Kris Petti	Ann Stoneburner and Robert Wyatt
	Ken Jarrett	Jon Pickering and Stella Guerrero	
	Stuart Jernigan	Karen and Jim Porter	
	Victor Johnson	Laura Prince	
	Susu and George Johnson, Jr.		
	Andrea Jolliffe		



Oconee River Land Trust

675 Pulaski Street, Suite 2300
Athens, GA 30601

“The mission of the Oconee River Land Trust is to conserve natural lands, protect water quality, preserve wildlife habitat, and enhance the quality of our lives and those of future generations.”

***Yes, I want to help protect green space in our region
Please enroll me as a member of the Oconee River Land Trust.***

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Membership Levels:

- Student (\$30)
- Land Steward (\$50)
- Family (\$100)
- Land Protector (\$150)
- Land Conservator (\$500)
- Trustee of the Land (\$1,000+)

Thank you for your support!

Mail this form (or join online at oconeeriverlandtrust.org) with your charitable contribution to:

The Oconee River Land Trust, 675 Pulaski Street, Suite 2300, Athens, GA 30601

Planning for the future?

If you are interested in Legacy Giving, contact **Steffney Thompson** at **706-552-3138** or **steffney@oconeeriverlandtrust.org**.