



# Field Notes

December 2013



Eastern mud turtle

A publication of The LandTrust for Central NC

## Organizational Updates

### The LandTrust Applies for National Accreditation!

The land trust accreditation program recognizes land conservation organizations that meet national quality standards for protecting important natural places and working lands forever. The LandTrust for Central NC is pleased to announce it has applied for accreditation!

The Land Trust Accreditation Commission, an independent program of the Land Trust Alliance, conducts an extensive review of each applicant's policies and programs. Achieving accreditation is a significant milestone

The Commission invites public input and accepts signed, written comments on pending applications. To learn more about the accreditation program and to submit a comment, visit [www.landtrustaccreditation.org](http://www.landtrustaccreditation.org).

### New office location



We've moved! The LandTrust for Central North Carolina is now located in The Gateway Building! Our new location is at: 204 East Innes Street, Suite 280, Salisbury NC 28144.

## Nature Connection

### Four miles of Uwharrie Trail restored! Joe Moffitt Honored

The LandTrust is thrilled to announce the official opening of the new 4-mile long extension to the Uwharrie National Recreation Trail and the dedication of the new "Joe Moffitt" trailhead on Thayer Road!

More than 50 attendees joined us for a ribbon cutting ceremony on Sunday, December 8th to celebrate this grand achievement!

The new trailhead on Thayer Road has been designated the "Joe Moffitt Trailhead" to honor the original founder and visionary for the Uwharrie Trail. Joe, a Boy Scout leader, and others originally built the Uwharrie Trail in the 1970s.

In the past 20 years, many sections of the original trail closed as property was sold or left to heirs who no longer live here. Thanks to the joint efforts of The LandTrust and many other partners, several of the gaps

in the trail have been filled, restoring those lost sections. Many volunteer hours of hard work lopping, sawing, raking, and grubbing have gone into reclaiming this lost section of trail, and we owe a huge debt of to gratitude to

all those who have joined us in these efforts - with a special thanks to volunteers extraordinaire David Craft and David Gardener for leading the charge on our workdays.

Special thanks also to Sean Hassell and the West Montgomery High School Masonry class for building the trailhead monument, and to Jacob's Creek Stone Company and Hedgecock Builder's Supply Company for donating materials. Funds for the trailhead development were also provided by the Montgomery County Tourism Development Authority.

Join us second Saturdays in 2014 as we work on the next section of trail north to High Pine Church Road!



Volunteers helping rebuild the lost Uwharrie Trail section!

# Letters from our Board

## Finding Our Conservation Voice - by Board President, Darrell Hancock



I began practicing law before computers. Memory typewriters, which held up to 50 pages were the latest innovation and carbon paper was a staple in every stationery drawer. Photostatic copies were becoming common but “cc” still literally meant carbon copy.

Overnight letters were available in limited markets and Special Delivery was still the exclusive province of the Post Office. When I first became

aware of facsimile transmissions, I could not understand the point. By that time, Fed-Ex had guaranteed overnight delivery before 10 a.m. in almost all markets, so why the need?

Then came E-mail. The formal letter was evolving into an informal memo – soon to become the predominant form of business and personal correspondence. Now the formal letter seems anachronistic for everyday communication. Need I even mention “texting?” A whole new dialect of symbols, anagrams and truncated words are the currency of this new mode of communication. Relying heavily on the use of consonants, some text messages read more like ancient Hebrew than the modern English which they replace...

Meanwhile, even as I write, Bitcoin, (go ahead and Google it) holds the threat of doing to banks what the Internet did to the Post Office.

## Giving Thanks - by Board Member, Ruth Ann Grissom

I write this on the heels of a festive Thanksgiving weekend in the Uwharries. On Thursday, we hosted extended family for our traditional potluck lunch. When the weather is mild, we gravitate outside to eat desert and shoot the breeze, but this year we huddled around the living room fire. At one point, Aunt Patty turned her attention toward the windows and remarked on the view of forested hills in the distance. “It’s so peaceful,” she said, dreamily.

On Friday, friends from Charlotte arrived for our annual “day on the land.” We did some target practice, pressed a batch of apple cider and hiked. At dusk, we built a bonfire, grilled some burgers and toasted marshmallows for s’mores. When night was firmly upon us, a friend gazed at the Milky Way and encouraged all the “city kids” to look up and appreciate a “real sky.”

These experiences are priceless, but they do come with a cost. Our forested hills and starry skies are courtesy of large tracts of conservation land in the Uwharries. The LandTrust has worked with local landowners and targeted gaps in the fragmented national forest to help protect the Uwharrie River and restore

I ponder all of these things in light of the mission of The LandTrust. We seek to be relevant in a sustainable way. We do not manage crypto easements or preserve virtual farms and landscapes. All of our vital work is real. REAL. No desk jockeys here. Staff are on the trails, on the phones, on the move. Constantly. This is the reality of managing the lands that we hold in trust for the benefit of generations who will not understand the concept of carbon paper (or perhaps even formal English).

As I observe the passing of another year and the erosion of many sources of government funding for our work, I grudgingly accept that we will have to continue to do more with less. We will. The regret that I have is that perhaps we failed to loudly proclaim what it is that we do. I thought that it should seem obvious, but perhaps it is not. With the incessant din of the electronic media-ridden world, perhaps THEY did not hear us proclaim just what we have been doing with highly-driven professionals and passionate backers, such as you.

Although it is not our style, we will all need to shout a little louder in the coming days to proclaim our mission, announce our successes and share our dream for the sustainable management of the resources that have been placed in our trust. So, we will add that to our job description: “shouting when necessary.”

Thank you for standing with us to save REAL places with REAL meaning to “Us”, and those who will follow.

the Uwharrie Trail to its historic length.

I’m thankful for the work The LandTrust has done to preserve farmland and natural areas across our ten-county region, and I’m in awe of a staff that has somehow managed to do more with less. As an individual,

it’s impossible for me to do conservation on a landscape level, but as a donor to The LandTrust, I can do just that. Our resources are not only pooled, they’re leveraged. Our donations allow a talented, dedicated and creative staff to bring home our share of dwindling state and federal funds. A membership or special year-end contribution to The LandTrust isn’t merely tax-deductible; it’s a bargain. I give to The LandTrust, with thanks.



*Ruth Ann Grissom, on left, with Brian O'Shea, Marcus Plescia, and John Gerwin at our Uwharrie Naturalist Weekend.*

Nature Connection

# A Walk in the Woods - The LandTrust's first annual Uwharrie Naturalist Weekend in photographs

Have you ever wondered what you might see if you spent a whole weekend outside just looking? How about if you could also bring a few expert field biologists and naturalists with you? Well, that's what we were able to do at The LandTrust for Central North Carolina's first Uwharrie Naturalist Weekend in May. More than 50 people came for the hikes, canoe trip and camping event. In two days and one night we spotted more than 20 bird species, at least 14 species of wildflowers in bloom, and 6 herp species ("herps" from herpetology, the study of amphibians and

reptiles), including one rather large canebrake rattlesnake (also known as a timber rattlesnake). It was a truly unique opportunity to see this huge diversity of wildlife up close on a pristine LandTrust Uwharrie River preserve. If you missed out this past year, don't worry - this event was such a huge success that we have decided to make it an annual one, so make plans to join us May 10th and 11th of 2014. Special thanks to John Gerwin and Brian O'Shea with the NC Museum of Natural Sciences for helping us make this truly unique event possible.



## Nature Connection

# The Uwharrie Trail from End to End - A Thru Hike Adventure

This past July, LandTrust staff, friends and interns had the amazing opportunity to thru hike the 40-mile Uwharrie Trail. There were just three of us who backpacked the entire trail: Don Childrey, author of the Uwharrie Lakes Region Trail Guide, Duke University intern Rebecca Schoonover, and Associate Director Crystal Cockman. However, over the course of our four day adventure, we had 22 folks total join us for various days and nights, with more folks providing us support as our trail angels, bringing us brownies and cooking us dinner and otherwise encouraging us along the way. It was an amazing experience and one we all hope to do again soon.

There were many highlights of our thru hike. “At the top of this list has to be finding an orchid I’d been seeking for more than three years, crested coralroot, which blooms only once every 7-10 years in really wet summers,” says Associate Director, Crystal Cockman. A beautiful pink and yellow hue, this orchid blends in well with the surroundings, is found in hardwood forests near higher elevations, and is classified as a state rare plant in North Carolina.

We also saw Carolina Lily in bloom, a beautiful orange native lily in our hardwood forests. We often woke to



the sounds of neotropical migratory birds, at the end of their breeding season this time of year, so we heard some of the latest season calls of Wood Thrush and Hooded warblers.

The Uwharrie Trail is a true jewel of this region and a challenging hike even in ideal conditions. In sweltering July

humidity with tree-falls from recent storms, mosquitos, gnats, and too many spider webs to count, it was even more of an endeavor. But that simply made the experience and the camaraderie even more meaningful, as we enjoyed frequent stops to filter water and share jokes and stories. We took time in the evenings to read some of the ghost tales of the Uwharries from Fred Morgan’s popular books, and even brought a storm upon us by digging for gold and scaring up the “ghost of the Jumpin’ Off Rock.” We saw many of the camps that Joe’s Boy Scouts built, and visited the lonely grave of Diana Woodall near Long Mountain.



It’s amazing how many fun experiences fit into just a 40-mile hike over four days. This trip was a great reminder of how nature offers us places to challenge ourselves and a place to share those adventures with others. Carrying all we needed to survive on our backs for several days was no easy task as we climbed up and down our surprisingly challenging Uwharrie Mountains. We all felt a sense of accomplishment and solidarity as we crossed the final steps at the end of trail, enjoying the completion of our trek but certainly just as much the journey along the way.

The LandTrust will be hosting another thru hike this coming May. Contact Crystal for more information.



# LandTrust receives Wildlife Commission's 2013 Excellence in Land Management Award

On June 20, 2013 staff members from The LandTrust for Central North Carolina ventured to the Wildlife Resources Commission's office in Raleigh in order to accept the 2013 Excellence in Wildlife Management, Lawrence G. Diedrick Small Game Award. This award is named for the late Lawrence Diedrick, a former Wildlife Commissioner, who was a passionate small game hunter and a strong advocate for sound wildlife conservation. The award recognizes individuals and organizations for the promotion of habitat management for small game species. The LandTrust has demonstrated their dedication to land protection and habitat management to benefit not just small game species but all local wildlife species.

The following excerpt from the LandTrust's nomination for the Diedrick award highlights their efforts benefitting wildlife species and present and future North Carolinians. "If the LandTrust had to be compared to an animal, I would liken them to a snapping turtle. While aesthetically this comparison may not be as appealing as a colorful butterfly or a strong soaring eagle, it seems to fit how they achieve their conservation objectives. They protect conservation properties with strong easements which are much like the shell that protects the snapping turtle's core. But, they are not content to rest with what they currently protect; they are constantly on the lookout for additional conservation targets that they can "snap up" for future generations. In the current economy, just like a snapping turtle, they often have to stick their neck out to protect these properties.

"To date they hold conservation easements on 16,029 acres and own 4,182 acres within their nine county work area. The LandTrust has transferred 606 acres to and assisted with the acquisition of another 1,205 acres by local, state, and federal agencies. They have worked to purchase and transfer several pieces of property to governmental agencies which have been incorporated into the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission's Game Land's Program. These include Second Creek Game Land (1,113 acres), King Mountain Tract (354 acres), and the Lawrenceville Tract (112 acres). "The LandTrust has also 'stuck its neck out' by actively managing property they own. In the past three years, they have established 15



*Members of the Landtrust for Central North Carolina (center two: Crystal Cockman and Jason Walser) receive the Lawrence G. Diedrick Award from (L to R) David Cobb, Chief, David Hoyle and Mitch St. Clair, Commissioners, and Gordon Myers, Executive Director with NCWRC.*

acres of native grasses, treated 20 acres of non-native plants, converted 15 acres of agriculture field to mast producing trees, and had 515 acres of prescribed burns conducted on their properties. The LandTrust staff has and continues to stick their neck out to do the right thing for wildlife and serve as a good example for private landowners and natural resource students who visit their property.

"Over the coming years, many thousands of acres in the southern Piedmont would no longer be composed of wildlife habitat if it were not for the efforts of the LandTrust. It is very clear to see that the staff and board members do not believe that their responsibility stops at protecting property, but they also understand the significance of land management to benefit wildlife species. This small group of people has knowingly added stress to themselves and their families to protect and manage natural areas in their part of the world. Their efforts have benefited small game species, big game species, non-game species, and the humans that find value in these critters."

-John Isenhour

For information on improving wildlife habitat on your property, contact North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission, Technical Assistance Biologist John Isenhour at 704-637-2400, Ext. 101.

## Stokes Family Farm Preserved in Davidson County

The Land Trust celebrated the closing of a conservation easement on the 250-acre Stokes Family Farm in Linwood, North Carolina. Completion of this project represents more than a decade of work with the Stokes Family, who have farmed this land for more than two generations and long-desired to see the property protected. “GoldPrint Farms,” a part of the Stokes Family Farm, is an internationally-known brand in the Guernsey Dairy Cattle industry. Winning awards at many fairs and shows across the country, the cattle bred at this farm are considered among the best in the country, year in and out, due to the quality of the grasses grown at this farm. These grasses are superior, the Stokes family believes, because of a combination of the very unique agricultural soils found at this place, and the environmental sensitivity with which the family manages the farm.

Clair Stokes Wylie (and her husband Paul), Jane Stokes Everhart (and her husband Randy), and Smith Stokes all worked together to ensure that their farmland would remain farmland for many generations to come. In fact, the conservation of the farm was strongly supported by



*Stokes Family with prize-winning guernsey cow raised on farm.*

the children of the easement grantors who all intend to continue to maintain the heritage of quality Guernsey cattle production and the “Goldprint” brand created by their grandfather.

Support for the project was provided by the North Carolina Agriculture Development and Farmland Preservation Trust Fund and the USDA Farm and Ranchland Protection Program.

## Additional Kerr Property purchased in Rowan County

The LandTrust has purchased another property off Cauble Farm Road, which adjoins a previous purchase and adds 18 acres to our growing network of conservation lands in this beautiful portion of Rowan County. We have hopes of restoring this property to a forest, and we are even exploring the site’s suitability for reforestation with American

chestnuts (*Castanea dentata*). If the property is found to be suitable, we will work with the American Chestnut Foundation to plant trees that are nearly pure American chestnuts. Ultimately this property will serve as an outdoor learning laboratory for Catawba College students and Rowan County residents.

The American chestnut was once the predominant tree of eastern forests, covering more than 200 million acres from Maine to Florida. The blight, a fungal infection imported to the United States on Asian trees, resulted in the death of nearly all the trees in the early 20th century. This tree was important both ecologically and economically, providing wildlife habitat as well as timber. Through backcross breeding, the American Chestnut Foundation have created trees that are virtually identical genetically to American trees just with blight resistance. We will keep you posted on this effort!



## Second phase of Capel property purchased! Hidden lake and views from Morrow Mountain State Park Preserved!

The LandTrust is very pleased to announce the purchase of the remaining 64 acres of the Capel Property, located where the Uwharrie River joins the Yadkin-Pee Dee River on Lake Tillery. The LandTrust purchased the first 244 acres in 2009, and had an option to purchase the remainder through this year and we secured the property with loans in the spring. We were awarded a NC Clean Water Management Trust Fund grant and will partner with the NC Wildlife Resources Commission (WRC) through its State Wildlife Grant funding to pay off the loan. The property will ultimately be owned by NC WRC, which will provide public access for recreation and gamelands. The Capel Property boasts amazing views of Morrow Mountain State Park and the Uwharrie National Forest. The site also provides a canoe take-out point for kayakers who put-in on Highway 109, such that they can take out in Montgomery County instead of having to drive all the way across Lake Tillery to Morrow Mountain State Park. Thanks to the Conservation



*Morrow Mountain State Park seen from the newly protected Capel Lands.*

Trust for NC for providing loan funding to make the purchase possible, as well as the Stanback Family that provided funding for the acquisition of the first phase of this important project.

## Thanks to our Summer Interns!

The LandTrust would like to express our deepest gratitude to our summer 2013 interns! They are pictured starting at top left and going clockwise: Rebecca Schoonover, Kevin Dick, Nathan Hough, Emily Marino, and Shakira Ibrahim.

Rebecca and Kevin were both Stanback Interns and masters students at the Nicholas School of the Environment at Duke University. Rebecca's project was documenting sites along the Uwharrie Trail and coordinating a thru-hike and video. Kevin's project was using GIS modeling to identify potential bog turtle habitat in our region. Emily was also a Stanback Intern and an undergraduate student at Duke University. She was our stewardship intern this summer and spent most of her time working on baseline reports and monitoring visits.

Shakira is an undergraduate student at NC Agricultural and Technical State University, and she worked on community outreach and publicity. Nathan is a Salisbury native attending Western Carolina University. Thanks to the Stanback Internship Program and The Conservation Trust for NC for providing funding for these internships.



Recent Events

## Annual Meeting Event

On Sunday, June 2, 2013 the LandTrust for Central North Carolina hosted more than 100 members at its Annual Membership Meeting at Morgan Ridge Vineyards. Prior to the business meeting, approximately 40 attendees enjoyed a tour highlighting an ongoing conservation and habitat restoration project at a nearby property. Following the meeting, those in attendance were treated to a behind-the-scenes tour of the vineyard and winery by co-owner Amie Baudoin.



*Attendees enjoyed a tour of the Morgan Ridge vineyard and winery.*

## Natty Greene's Brewing Company Earth Day Jam



*Earth Day Jam 2013. Photos by Sean Meyers.*

On April 18th, nearly 600 music enthusiasts ascended on Saving Grace Farm, a therapeutic and recreational horseback riding center located just north of Salisbury, to attend the 2nd Annual Earth Day Jam (EDJ). Having forged a sponsorship with Greensboro's Natty Greene's Brewing Company, EDJ served as a terrific LandTrust outreach that combined great music, local foods and regionally-produced craft brews. 16 musical groups provided entertainment for the all day festival set on beautiful equestrian farm. The line-up featured flat-pick guitar legend Larry Keel and his band, Natural Bridge. Food and craft vendors along with community educational booths created a family-friendly event. Good friends and uber-volunteers, Stacey Carter and Ashley Honbarrier, founded the event in 2012 and generously donate their time, energy and passion for music, local food, and environmental awareness, to this cause with proceeds going to The LandTrust.



## Dairy Dash

The Hoffner Organic Dairy, a LandTrust preserved farm in Rowan County, was the backdrop for the Dairy Dash 5K on September 14, 2013. Over 50 runners participated in the trail run that meandered along sunflower fields, pasture edges and woodland paths. Amy Hoffner Poirier, her mom and dad, Buddy and Connie, along with brother Chris Hoffner, all pitch-in to make this annual event the signature trail run in Rowan County. Major sponsors included LandTrust Board member Billy Joe Kepley, Organic Valley Farms, Novant Health, Wrightsocks, and Salisbury Rowan Runners.



*Kids warm up for the run with the Chick-fil-A cow on the farm.*

## Recent Events

# South Yadkin River Excursion

The leaves were just beginning to show a little fall color on October 20th, when The LandTrust, in partnership with Salisbury Boy Scout Troop 442, led a group of intrepid LandTrust members on a float of the South Yadkin River from the boat launch at the Highway 601 Bridge on the Rowan/Davie County line down to the confluence of the Yadkin River at Hannah's Ferry Road. Along the way, LandTrust members Roger and Tracy Laudy graciously provided a riverside cookout with hot dogs and hamburgers at their gorgeous property on "The Point" – the narrow sliver of Davie County between the rivers. This area, which includes the Bittinger and Springer tracts, and in combination with the Crowther property on the Rowan County side, represents the



*More than 40 people joined us on our fall South Yadkin River float trip.*

culmination of several years of LandTrust efforts to protect water quality in this important area of the Yadkin–Pee Dee river basin, including the location of the drinking water supply intake for the City of Salisbury.

# Halloween Hike and Ghost Tales in the Uwharries event with storyteller Charlotte Ross

The Uwharrie Mountains are home to many legends and ghost stories passed down through the generations, and to celebrate our haunted heritage, The LandTrust hosted our first ever ghost tale event on Friday November 1st. The rain did not stop the more than 30 folks who came out to hike with us in the Birkheads, where we saw and heard the ghost story of the Cooper cemetery and homeplace.

Afterward we returned to the Thornburg House, built in 1855 and listed on the national historic register, and newly restored and open to the public for the first time. We had an amazing cookout with food provided by



*Charlotte Ross regaled attendees with her fabulous stories by campfire.*



*The rain did not put a damper on our Halloween hike in the Birkheads.*

Chris Cagle and the Eldorado Outpost. As dusk approached, we gathered around to hear ghost tales from famous ghost story historian Charlotte Ross, also known as the "Legend Lady," a noted storyteller, folklorist, and Appalachian State University Professor. After the ghost stories we had s'mores by campfire. We were so excited to have Charlotte here in our Uwharries to share some of her fascinating stories with us, and a great time was had by all.

# RiverDance 2013 Remembered

Over 400 guests gathered at the Historic Salisbury Train Station on August 13th to enjoy the distinct sound of American folk artists **Chatham County Line**. RiverDance chairs, Emily Hunter and Penn Blanton, led a team of LandTrust volunteers in transforming the train station concourse and passenger waiting room into a festive and beautiful woodland setting with large trees, branches, stumps, mosses and gorgeous summer flowers. Heavy rain did not dampen the spirits of RiverDancers as the cooler temperatures provided a welcome break from the summer heat. Tasty beverages and delicious foods helped make the evening memorable.

Presenting sponsors, Bill and Shari Graham, along with a record number of table sponsors, garnered over \$27,000 for The LandTrust for Central North Carolina. The annual gala has become The LandTrust's celebration of our conservation accomplishments and a gathering of our friends and supporters.

As a special treat, a musical interlude by **Gandhi's Warehouse**, a group of young men from Charlotte, North Carolina, thrilled the audience with remarkable instrumental and vocal command in covering a number of popular bluegrass/folk genre songs.



## THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!

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## Thank you Andrew Waters from The LandTrust!



*LandTrust Staff and Board would like to thank Andrew for his many years of dedicated service to our cause!*

Andrew Waters joined The LandTrust in fall of 2006 as our Operations Director. Andrew wore many hats for this organization, working on everything from land protection and stewardship to office administration and outreach. Some of his most notable achievements in his time with us were his pivotal role in the protection of the 400-acre Springer Property and the 40-acre Spencer Woods project. In addition, Andrew worked tirelessly behind the scenes organizing and orchestrating daily tasks and business management, helping to keep the office running smoothly and doing whatever needed to be done. Andrew leaves us to become the Executive Director of the Spartanburg Area Land Conservancy (SPACE) located in Spartanburg, South Carolina. We will miss Andrew but wish him all the best as he starts this new adventure! We are sure of his success.

### Fundraising

## LandTrust Fall Campaign Makes Progress - Not too late to give!

The LandTrust for Central North Carolina launched a Fall Fundraising Campaign in late October. The primary objective of the campaign has been to encourage members and donors to off-set costs of end-of-year land conservation projects. Appeal letters were mailed to 2,664 individuals, families and corporate entities. As of December 16, 2013, 119 donors (about 4%) have contributed over \$57,000 toward our goal of \$60,000 – roughly 95% of the targeted amount. While the response has been encouraging – there is more work to be done!

If you have not made your end-of-year, tax-deductible and charitable contribution to The LandTrust for Central NC, please consider doing so with the remittance envelope provided in this newsletter. Contributions can also be made on our website at [www.landtrustcnc.org](http://www.landtrustcnc.org). Just click the “Donate Now” button.

If you have already sent your gift and renewed your membership, thank you for your continued support of the LandTrust!

## Conservation Honoraria are Creative and Easy! (And your pets will like them, too!)

The past year, The LandTrust received several contributions from Ann and Don Piehl of New London, in honor of their friends the Shusters, who care for their dog when the Piehls travel.

Ann writes, “My friend Lisa Shuster and her husband simply volunteer to take care of my dog when we are away, and they do not want me to pay them. But I don’t want to impose on their generosity or take their friendship for granted in this way. Lisa has enjoyed both of The LandTrust hikes that we have taken together and commented that she should make a donation. I told her I’d like to make the donation in her name.

“I would be spending this money on kennel/boarding fees, and my little dog is so much happier and healthier staying with them in their home. She loved the idea and doesn’t have to be embarrassed about taking money from me. Win, win!”

What a great idea!



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within North Carolina's heartland.*

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## THE LANDTRUST FOR CENTRAL NORTH CAROLINA

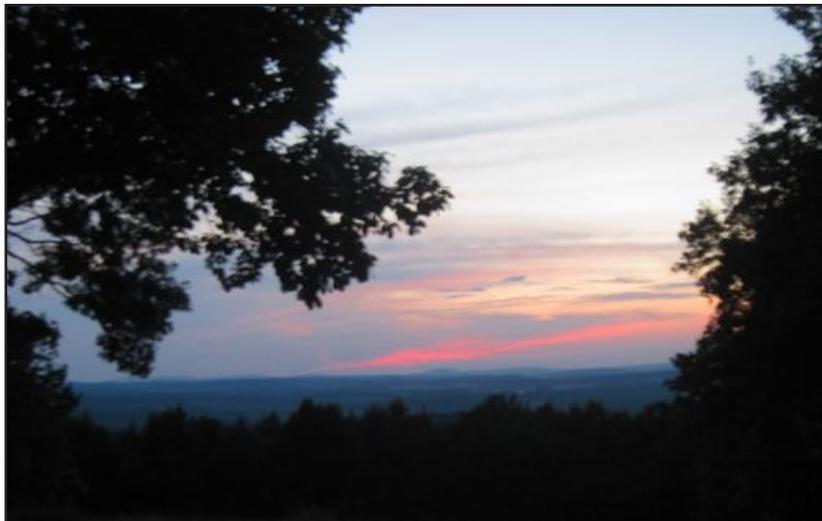
The LandTrust is a private, nonprofit organization working with private and public landowners to protect the special natural areas, family farms and rural landscapes of Anson, Cabarrus, Davidson, Davie, Iredell, Montgomery, Randolph, Richmond, Rowan and Stanly Counties. With 501(c)(3) status, all donations to The LandTrust qualify for maximum tax deductions.



*Fun on our South Yadkin River Canoe trip!*



*Yellow-throated warbler spotted on hike.*



*Sunset on first night of Uwharrie Thru Hike, on newly protected McArthur Property.*

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