



Nation Ford News

The Newsletter of Nation Ford Land Trust

September, 2001



Al Whisonant observes as Jo Anne Pafford signs conservation easement placed on the Whisonant family farm.

Family Grants Conservation Easement on Rock Hill Farm

Last year, three generations of the Whisonant family jointly agreed to grant a conservation easement on their 309-acre farm which borders the Rock Hill Country Club. The easement was finalized in July of this year and accepted by Nation Ford Land Trust. This action taken by Al Whisonant, Jo Anne Pafford, and the entire Whisonant family permanently preserves the land and protects it from future development.

We congratulate the Whisonant family on this most important decision. We also wish to recognize the York County Forever Commission and

Ken Driggers of the Palmetto Conservation Foundation for their guidance and assistance given the Whisonant family throughout the entire process.

Nation Ford Land Trust and The Palmetto Conservation Foundation are teaming with York County Forever to conserve about 10,000 acres of land by 2010.

York County Grants Two Easements

York County granted two conservation easements to Nation Ford Land Trust in July of this year. The first easement is on the Dalton Ranch, 1,647 acres located on Broad River in the Broad River and Bullock Creek Townships. This easement will promote access to the Broad River and related recreational uses associated with the property while assuring that the historic, cultural, habitat, natural, scenic, recreational and associated open space features of the property will be retained and maintained forever. York County purchased the land from Harry and Becca Dalton in November 2000. The property is one of the first pieces of land acquired by the county under York County Forever.

The second easement is on Ferguson Mountain (or Nanny's Mountain) located in Bethel Township. The conservation easement on this 115-acre tract will preserve the ecological and historic integrity of Ferguson Mountain. York County purchased the land in November 1997 with the help of Nation Ford Land Trust.

Annual Meeting and Autumn Party Scheduled

The Annual Meeting of the Nation Ford Land Trust will be held on Thursday, October 25, beginning at 5:30 pm. The business meeting will be held on the second level of the Anne Springs Close Greenway Dairy Barn in Fort Mill. We welcome and encourage all members of the Land Trust to attend this meeting.

Following the business meeting, we will join other invited guests on the lower level of the Dairy Barn for an "Autumn Party for Custodians of the Land." The party will begin with a social followed by a very informative speech by Mr. D. G. Martin with the Trust for Public Land. Then the really fun part of the evening – an art auction! This fundraising event is titled "Images of the Past to Protect the Future!" You will definitely enjoy the excitement of bidding on signed and numbered 3-dimensional replicas of the Dairy Barn crafted by artist, Jim Shore of Heath Springs, as well as other works of art by artisans from across York County! Net proceeds from the auction will be used for preservation work by Nation Ford Land Trust. The cost is \$15.00 per person. Watch for your invitation by mail after October 1!

Board of Directors

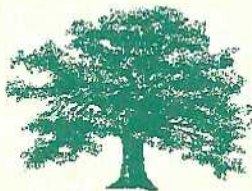
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Executive Director

Carol Dixon



Mission Statement

The Nation Ford Land Trust is dedicated to the preservation of open spaces, natural beauty, and the scenic heritage of the York County area. Preserving these qualities will ensure that as our home grows, it retains the qualities that have made it a wonderful place to live, work, and raise a family.

Work Continues on Civil War Battery Site

Gary and Carol Dixon, Warren Norman of Kanawha Land Company, and Maryann Trent, a conservationist with the Natural Resources Conservation Service, met recently at the Civil War Battery site to make measurements for a security fence which we hope to have erected by the end of October. Once the site has been properly secured, work will begin on ground stabilization, a topographic survey, soil testing, etc. in an effort to permanently preserve this historic landmark.



Gary Dixon, Warren Norman and Maryann Trent measure site.

Land Trust Seeks Executive Director

After four years with Nation Ford Land Trust, Carol Dixon will retire by the end of the year. Applications are now being accepted for the position of Executive Director. This is a part-time position (24 hours per week) and is set up on a contractual basis. If you or someone you know have an interest in the work of the land trust and would like to get more involved, please give Carol a call at 547-8140 to schedule an interview or send your resume to Nation Ford Land Trust, P. O. Box 431, Fort Mill, SC 29716-0431.

Upcoming Events

- October 13 *Red Hills: A Celebration of Traditional Crafts
Historic Brattonsville
10 am - 4 pm
Call 803/684-2327 for details.*
- October 25 *Nation Ford Land Trust Annual Meeting/
"Autumn Party for Custodians of the Land"
Anne Springs Close Greenway Dairy Barn
5:30 pm - Annual Meeting (Members)
6:30 pm - Autumn Party (Members/Invited Guests)
Call Carol Dixon at 803/547-8140 for details.*
- October 27 *A Scotch-Irish Halloween
Historic Brattonsville
10 am - 4 pm
Call 803/684-2327 for details.*
- October 27-28 *Civil War Battle Demonstration
Historic Brattonsville
5 pm - Battle at 2 pm (both days)
Call 803/684-2327 for details*
- November 24 *Winter Wonderland Crafts Fair
Anne Springs Close Greenway Dairy Barn
9:30 am - 2:30 pm
Call 803/547-2235 for details and for
booth rental applications/information*



Murray White

From the Chairman

The York County Council recently voted to adopt a Purchase of Development Rights (PDR) program as a part of their York County Forever plan. This action will have far-reaching and long-term benefits as the county deals with growth issues.

York County Forever was envisioned to have three major components of land conservation. These could be likened to a three-legged stool with the three legs being as follows:

- 1 – Purchase of land (fee simple title)
- 2 – Voluntary conservation easements
- 3 – Purchase of development rights

York County Forever has been highly successful, but thusfar has only used purchase of land and voluntary easements as part of their program. The implementation of PDRs promises even greater success for York County Forever.

The use of PDRs will enable the county to preserve open space much more cost effectively. The cost of a PDR is much cheaper than the outright purchase of land. This will enable the county to get much more “bang for the tax dollar” in its open space conservation effort. Also, the county will not have the liabilities associated with owned land.

Congratulations are in order to the York County Council for making this important decision which will have such a positive impact on the quality of life for our citizens. York County continues to be a leader in our region as they deal with growth issues.

The Nation Ford Land Trust and The Palmetto Conservation Foundation are pleased to have the opportunity to continue to partner with York County Forever to accomplish its mission.

Nation Ford Land Trust Library

The Land Trust office located at 118 Main Street is a good source of information for York County/South Carolina historic writings, informational books on conservation easements, etc. A few of the literary works we have in our library are:

- The Nation Ford Road (Its History and Impact); authored by Louise Pettus
- Jefferson Davis in South Carolina; authored by Sam Thomas
- Building the Blue Wall; authored by Melinda Gladfelter Young
- A Region Awakens; authored by M. S. Van Hecke
- The Landowner's Guide to Conservation Easements; authored by Steven Bick & Harry L. Haney, Jr.

Other books are available for sale through the Palmetto Conservation Foundation relating to waterfalls in South Carolina, the Palmetto Trail, mountain bike trails, birding trails, scenic rivers, horse trails, day hikes, and Citizen's Guides to billboard control and clean water.

Katawba Valley Land Trust offers copies of *The Gentle River* video for sale.

We still have several copies of the Spider Lily print for sale. Call us at 547-8140 or drop by!

A VERY SPECIAL “THANK YOU” TO FRANKLIN PRINTERS IN PINEVILLE FOR SPONSORING OUR NEWSLETTER! CALL THEM AT 704/541-2679 FOR ALL YOUR PRINTING NEEDS!

Partner with Nation Ford Land Trust

Nation Ford Land Trust is a partnership among those citizens interested in preserving the natural and cultural integrity of York and its surrounding counties. To accomplish the types of projects described in this newsletter, we need the support of people like you who want to ensure that we pass on the good things about this community to our children.

Take a moment to join Nation Ford Land Trust at the highest membership level possible for you and your family. We promise in return that we will continue to work towards conservation in an effective, business-like manner.

Yes, I want to join renew my membership with Nation Ford Land Trust. Please accept my 2001 membership at this level:

\$25 individual \$50 family \$100 business

I want to help conservation in the York County area. Please let me know how I can become involved.

Name _____ Telephone (____) _____

Address _____

Please mail to: Nation Ford Land Trust, P. O. Box 431, Fort Mill, SC 29716-0431

Nation Ford Land Trust is recognized as a 501(c)(3) organization by the Internal Revenue Service. Contributions to Nation Ford Land Trust are deductible to the extent allowable by law.

You CAN make a difference!

Nation Ford Land Trust

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