Dutchess Land Conservancy (DLC) is dedicated to preserving the scenic, agricultural and environmental resources of Dutchess County, New York, and the surrounding area.

DLC, as a private non-profit land conservation organization, carries out its mission primarily by obtaining conservation easements on privately held land and monitoring these easements in perpetuity. Conservation easements, acquired through either donation or purchase, are legal agreements limiting future development in order to protect land for conservation purposes.

In addition, DLC provides professional assistance to landowners and municipalities to encourage environmentally sound planning, and educates the public on matters of land conservation and stewardship.

Dear Friends:

Spring and summer are always a busy time for everyone as we shake off the cobwebs of winter and marvel at our surroundings here in Dutchess County. As everything turns green and comes into bloom, we are reminded of how fortunate we are to live in this beautiful, rural area. With its open fields, picturesque farms, rolling hills, and woodland and wetland habitats, the land beckons to us – inviting long strolls, vigorous hikes, leisurely bike or horseback rides, outdoor sporting activities or just a simple drive to admire any number of scenic vistas. And while enjoying all of these activities on the land, we remember that we have all worked together to keep these things as they are now for our children and grandchildren to take pleasure in.

But we also remember that there is much to be accomplished. Each year development pressure becomes more intense and our towns are faced with difficult decisions in order to balance growth and still maintain the area’s natural beauty and rural character. As local residents, we strive to protect our farms in order to safeguard our access to fresh and healthy local foods, to conserve forested areas that give us clean air to breathe, and to preserve land containing aquifers and wetlands that provide and filter our drinking water.

We also work to protect special places that offer us an opportunity to explore our area’s rich natural history and scenic beauty. By continuing to work together, we can retain our rural identity while balancing the need for economic growth in our communities, and ultimately, we can create a sustainable landscape that benefits everyone. So spread the word about land conservation – it benefits us all.

Finally, thanks to our supporters and friends for another great year. In the pages of this report, you’ll read about the Wethersfield Farm coming under the professional stewardship of DLC; about the additional lands added to the Dover Stone Church Preserve, increasing it to over 170 acres and adding four miles of new trails; and about the landowners and farmers who ensured that their properties will stay protected forever. We hope you enjoy reading about all that you have helped to accomplish.

Sincerely,

Rebecca E.C. Thornton
President
To accomplish our mission Dutchess Land Conservancy works hard to protect important land, responsibly steward it, and educate people about why it’s so important.

We are lucky that our community understands the benefits of open land and strongly supports our conservation efforts. Because of this, over the last 30 years, local landowners, working with DLC, have forever protected over 39,000 acres of farms, forests, water, habitat, and scenic views.

Across our ever changing landscape we now see large contiguous blocks of permanently protected land where only minimal changes will occur over time. How cool is that, while other areas face transformation so drastic, they could be “anywhere America.”

Our focus on retaining our rural character by balancing resource protection with growth that fits in with our natural and farm landscape helps foster balanced and sustainable communities.

By offering education programs to people of all ages, we help answer the questions about why our land is so important to our lives.

At DLC we believe that a healthy environment and a healthy economy go hand-in-hand.
“It’s a gift to future generations. The woods give something to me—and an easement is the tiniest thing that I can give back to the woods.”
—Allan Shope

Protecting Our Resources, Preserving Our Heritage, Planning for Our Future

PROTECTING THE LAND WE LOVE

The Gift of Forever—Conservation Easements

Land conservation doesn’t happen because of DLC. It happens because people care about their land, their community and the rural fabric that drew them here in the first place. Most of our work here at DLC is with private landowners who want to ensure that their land stays open forever. While tax incentives can help, a majority of people do it for one simple reason: because they care deeply about their land, and understand how important it is.

Landowners, whose objective is to protect the unique character and qualities of their properties, can come to DLC for help. We work with families, couples, and individuals to help them accomplish their conservation goals by creating customized land protection plans which ensure that their property’s special scenic, rural, agricultural, forested, ecological, and natural features remain intact for current and future generations.

Land conservation provides a public benefit. We learned early on about how connected we are to the land: our food is grown there, our trees produce oxygen, and the ground filters our water. We love using the land for recreation; we share it with wildlife; we are just starting to understand how important ecosystems are. This is why protecting land is so important.

DLC is widely recognized on a national, state and regional basis for working with landowners to accomplish our mutual land preservation goals. We worked with numerous landowners in 2014, and five completed the protection of their unique properties adding another 500 acres to permanent conservation. One example of this is the Booth Farm.
The Booth Farm
142-years as a Family Farm
Protecting a Legacy on McGhee Hill

Donald and Mary Booth love their 250-acre farm, situated at the top of McGhee Hill, in the Town of North East. The farm was established by Don’s grandfather, Timothy, in 1873. Timothy arrived in the U.S. from England in 1872 with Don’s father, Benjamin. Timothy, and then Benjamin, worked the farm as a dairy and an apple orchard and Don remembers trips to the train station where he helped his father load apples to be transported and sold.

Don took over the farm in the 1940’s and continued the dairy operation. The orchard gradually fell away as trees grew too big, too old, or were blown down by storms.

In 1969, Don and Mary let their “hired man” go and continued to work the farm themselves until they retired in 1988. Mary helped with chopping corn, baling hay, raising the calves and keeping the records while Don did the milking and everything else.

They took two weekends off a year, one in the Spring and one in the Fall, when a neighbor would come take care of the farm for them. As Don says, “It was hard work, but we enjoyed it. We enjoyed the seasons as they came along.” Since their retirement, they have leased the land for farming so that it has remained in active agriculture.

Don doesn’t believe that his grandfather or father could have ever imagined the change in the landscape of the area. Most of the small farms in the neighborhood have been developed or sold and are no longer farmed the same way. Because of this, the Booths started thinking about conserving their property; they didn’t want the land to be developed.

Because they never had children of their own to continue working the farm, they thought working with DLC to protect that land with a conservation easement could help keep the land open forever. Even after being approached by a real estate broker who told him that an easement would lower the value of his property, Don refused to reconsider their decision. He told the broker that it didn’t matter to him if the value was lowered; it mattered that the land stay open, “even if no one farms it and it all grows up to bushes and trees.”

Don’s wish has now been realized, and the protection of the Booths’ family farm has truly benefited us all. This amazingly beautiful agricultural landscape, with such wonderful historical significance, is now protected forever because of Don and Mary’s heartfelt generosity.
Ensuring Working Farms for the Future—Buying Development Rights

Farming is key to the rural fabric of our communities. We are all becoming more concerned with food security and where our food comes from. Many years ago this was a thriving farm community; but for a number of years farmers have struggled because of high land costs and development pressure.

We are now thrilled to see a great resurgence in farming throughout the county. Because of the strong commitment of local farm families, DLC has seen tremendous successes in preserving the county’s farmland. We are also seeing renewed interest by young farmers, as well as growth and re-adaption of agriculture-related businesses. The number of farms in Dutchess County is at a high point since 1974!

Because farming is so important, we continue to focus a good portion of our work on protecting important farms and through this, our agricultural heritage. Through a Purchase of Development Rights (PDR) program, a farmer is paid for the value of his development rights in exchange for permanently protecting his land with a conservation easement. This allows a farmer to reduce debt, enhance a family business, or retire and allow other family members to take over.

Teaming up with Scenic Hudson Land Trust, the Town of Red Hook, and the USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service’s Farm and Ranch Lands Protection Program, we’ve helped ensure that another 170 acres of the County’s precious farmlands will remain in agriculture.

Echo Valley Farm
A family farm in the Red Hook Breadbasket

Echo Valley Farm, owned by siblings Christopher, Kevin and Debra Klose and nephew Nicolas Klose, was started by Christopher, Kevin, and Debra’s parents, Willard and Virginia Klose, who purchased the 105+ acre farm in 1943. Located within the concentrated area of critical farmland known as the Red Hook “Breadbasket,” Echo Valley Farm abuts two other protected farms and is in close proximity to another 1,600 acres of conserved land.

Historically a dairy operation, the farm has been operated as a sheep and hay farm for many years by the family. In 2012, they entered into a lease with Starling Yards, a start-up Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) farm, which is raising vegetables on approximately 10 acres for distribution at points in New York City.

The Town of Red Hook’s Community Preservation Plan, adopted in 2011, ranks Echo Valley Farm as a Number One level priority to preserve – one of only ten parcels in the entire Town to receive this ranking. Its rank is due both to the quality of farmland and to the property’s extensive frontage on the Sawkill Creek, which is the water source for nearby public wells that serve the Village of Red Hook.

Speaking for the Klose family, Chris Klose said, “Thanks to this marvelous public-private partnership, Echo Valley Farm will remain a farm. It’s a dream come true!”

“My grandfather used to say that once in your life you need a doctor, a lawyer, a policeman, and a preacher, but every day, three times a day, you need a farmer.
—Brenda Schoepp, farmer
PROTECTING THE LAND
WE LOVE

Kesicke Farm
A multi-generational family farm

Frank Vosburgh began farming when he was 18. His family’s Kesicke Farm was purchased by his maternal grandfather, Frank Kesicke, in 1944, passed down to his parents John and Barbara Vosburgh and subsequently to Frank. With help from his wife Cathy and their three children, Frankie, Steven and Lisa, Frank raises grass-fed beef, pork, lamb, and chickens on the farm as well as eggs and produce, all of which is sold at their farm stand on Middle Road.

The farm’s annual corn maze and hayrides make it a popular fall tourism destination and their goods are sold at the Rhinebeck Farmer’s market and to local restaurants. A fifth generation is now beginning to learn the farming business as Frank’s three grandchildren also help out around the farm.

Town of Red Hook Deputy Supervisor and Councilman Jim Ross noted, “All of us on the Town Board are pleased to be part of this collaborative effort and to have dedicated town farmland protection funds to preserving two outstanding farms. These are active farms that also provide open space that is enjoyed by residents throughout Red Hook and the county. This is another step in our community continuing to preserve prime farmland.”

Assessing What to Protect and Why – the Benefits of Conservation Land Planning

Often, when walking out on your land, it’s hard to decide on a plan for its future. Having an opportunity to look closely at what exists – agricultural, scenic, and environmental resources - and the role they play, as well as considering your future personal goals, can help you make informed decisions about the future of your land, and whether permanent conservation is right for you.

Landowners can come to DLC for this unique service. Our custom conservation land planning identifies important resources on a property, opportunities for well-sited home sites for children or future planning purposes, and develops options that help landowners visualize their options.

DLC uses its Geographic Information Systems (GIS) mapping capabilities to map features such as farmland soils, wetlands, forest lands, habitats and other natural and scenic resources which are important to protect. Next our well qualified staff can make recommendations on future home sites that minimize impacts to important resources while maintaining value in the marketplace.

Numerous landowners in 2014 obtained guidance from our professional land analysis helping them achieve a better understanding of the unique resource values of their land before making decisions. We believe so strongly in the benefits of conservation land planning that we provide these services even if it doesn’t ultimately result in a conservation commitment.

Towns can also tap into DLC’s conservation expertise. We’ve been working with municipalities to incorporate conservation land planning techniques into their land use ordinances to help achieve the protection of those areas identified locally as important.

“Conservation is a state of harmony between man and land.” —Aldo Leopold
Inspiring People Outdoors - Municipal Conservation Areas

Having a chance to get outside and experience the wonders of the outdoors provides us with so many personal benefits such as maintaining our physical and emotional health. It’s so important that we have access to high quality natural areas for passive recreational use.

While many local towns want to enhance the quality of life for their citizens by conserving important natural resources and providing recreational opportunities, often they lack the resources to acquire important open land. This is where DLC can help! With our competent staff, local relationships and transactional experience, we are uniquely positioned to help communities establish public conservation areas. Towns can turn to DLC for help to identify well-suited properties, raise funds, and to successfully achieve the acquisition, protection and long-term management of important public recreational land. One successful example of an amazing collaboration is the Dover Stone Church Preserve.

“Everybody needs beauty as well as bread; places where nature may heal and cheer and give strength to body and soul alike.” —John Muir
Expanding a Cultural and Historical Legacy – The Dover Stone Church Preserve

At the end of December 2014, working with the Town of Dover, with the support of a dedicated local community group, the Friends of Dover Stone Church, we were thrilled to add 50 new acres to Dover Stone Church Preserve. The land, just south of the existing Stone Church Preserve, is critical to Dover’s viewshed, protection of its water wellheads, and will provide public trails.

In 2012, Brian Vincent was hiking at the Preserve and the idea occurred to him that adding his 50 acre parcel to it would be a perfect use for the property that has been in his family for generations. He approached us with his proposal and we immediately began work to try to acquire the land.

Through our Municipal Conservation Areas Program, we raised the funds from an anonymous donor to buy the land from Brian, and protect it with a conservation easement that permits public access and outdoor recreation such as hiking, picnicking, bird watching, cross country skiing, snowshoeing and environmental education.

We then transferred the land to the Town at no cost to them. This expands the entire preserve to over 170 acres, allowing future generations to enjoy its historic importance and natural beauty, all within walking distance of the Village of Dover Plains.

Dover Town Supervisor Ryan Courtien noted, “The Town of Dover is exceptionally grateful to both Mr. Vincent and the Dutchess Land Conservancy for their tireless dedication to open space and recreation. The Dover Stone Church property will be improved this year with miles of hiking trails that will highlight the natural beauty of this historic landmark.”

Brian Vincent acknowledged his delight with the deal. “I’m very pleased that this land will now be used for hiking and hope many will enjoy the land. I feel that the Town will take great care of it and I’m happy to see it protected and open to the public.”

DLC and the Town are working with the New York New Jersey Trail Conference (NYNJTC) to construct new trails on the property. It gives us great satisfaction to work with local municipalities to create and expand recreation areas where residents and visitors can enjoy Dutchess County’s natural beauty. The Town of Dover and Friends of Dover Stone Church have been exceptional partners in our endeavors and we look forward to our continued collaboration.

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“Land trusts have a responsibility to donors, and to the community, to get it right. Accreditation is a great tool to strengthen land trusts and to grow the level of public trust in the permanence of land trust work.”

—Steve Small, attorney and author, “Preserving Family Lands”

Accreditation

An accredited land trust since 2009, DLC continues to work constantly to improve our organizational effectiveness. Being an accredited land trust helps to ensure supporters and our community of our commitment to excellence.

DLC is also approved by the Better Business Bureau’s Wise Giving Alliance as meeting its Standards for Charity Accountability and displays both the Accreditation Seal and the BBB logo on our letterhead, publications, and website. Donors can feel secure that their contributions are going to a credible charitable organization.

“In their mission to save the places people value most, land trusts are united by community cooperation and a deep connection to the land. By meeting rigorous quality standards and striving for continuous improvement, accredited land trusts promote public trust and ensure the permanence of protected land.”

Land Trust Accreditation Commission Chair Lawrence R. Kueter
STEWARDSHIP

By respecting the land, and choosing to be good stewards of our resources we can leave our world a better place. Land is fragile; once it’s gone, we can’t get it back. It’s up to us to responsibly care for our resources, and steward them in a way that ensures they are available for our children, and their children’s children.

Each year landowners protect more and more land with DLC conservation easements. With these easements comes the responsibility of assisting them with the ongoing stewardship of their protected properties. We are now privileged to work with over 370 conservation-minded stewards who own land protected by conservation easements.

We like to maintain positive, active relationships with our land stewards whose partnership is essential in managing the provisions set forth in their easements. We work cooperatively with them to ensure that activities are in compliance with their easement’s terms.

Our Land Stewards volunteer team has been vital to our success in accomplishing our growing task of annually monitoring conservation easements. While DLC aerial monitors all properties annually, it also ground monitors its 370 easements on a three to four year rotational basis.

On the rare occasion that problems are identified during monitoring, we work with landowners to remedy the situation. Contributions to DLC’s Stewardship Endowment Fund help defray the costs involved with the task of overseeing over 39,000 acres of easement-protected land.

Wethersfield Farm – Stewarding a Farm Rich in Conservation History

This year DLC accepted an assignment of the Wethersfield Farm conservation easement from American Farmland Trust (AFT), that in a national organization wide strategy, is transferring its easements to its local partners. Wethersfield Farm includes over 1,245 acres in the Town of Stanford.

The easement was originally granted to AFT in 1988 by the late Chauncey D. Stillman (1907-1989), an investor, philanthropist, and gentleman farmer who founded the working farm. An active conservationist, environmentalist, and a staunch believer in preserving the rural character of the area, in 1985 Mr. Stillman wrote to a friend, “If we …dedicate ourselves to the long-term stewardship of this marvelous countryside, we will not only do a service to ourselves and each other, but to future generations.”

The acquisition of this easement completes a contiguous area of DLC-protected properties and is surrounded by over 7,000 acres of preserved lands. DLC President Becky Thornton noted, “When the American Farmland Trust approached us about taking on the stewardship of the easement, we were thrilled. Mr. Stillman and Wethersfield Farm were the catalyst for protecting many properties in this area and DLC is perfectly positioned to oversee the easement and ensure that the property remains as Mr. Stillman wanted it. The Board and staff of DLC look forward to a strong working relationship with the Homeland Foundation which oversees the estate and to stewarding the easement in perpetuity.”

Kevin Malloy, the Estate Manager at Wethersfield Farm, knew Mr. Stillman personally, working for him in the late 1980’s. He remembers that Mr. Stillman envisioned the possibility of transferring the easement to DLC at some future time. Mr. Malloy is very pleased with the assignment and added, “The folks at the DLC are experts. When they did their baseline surveys of the land, they told us things about the nature of the terrain and land of which we weren’t even aware.”

The easement to DLC at some future time. Mr. Malloy is very pleased with the assignment and added, “The folks at the DLC are experts. When they did their baseline surveys of the land, they told us things about the nature of the terrain and land of which we weren’t even aware.”

Full Circus Farm - A Farmer Match Program Success Story

In 2013 we teamed up with Columbia Land Conservancy to expand their Farmer Landowner Match Program into Dutchess County. This exciting program facilitates lease agreements between landowners seeking to have their land farmed, and farmers seeking land, and is a great way to keep land open for farming. The expansion into Dutchess County is now bearing fruit.

Miriam Goler and Mark Stonehill were able to start their Full Circus Farm, a sustainably grown vegetable operation in Pine Plains. The couple, originally from New York City, most recently lived and ran a small farming operation on the coast of Maine. Wanting to live closer to family, they began the search for a place to farm in this area and learned about the match program. Introduced to a landowner who had recently purchased property that they wanted to return to active agriculture, Miriam and Mark now have a five-year lease on 20 acres of productive farmland. In the process, two dreams were realized: the landowner’s to have the farm return to agriculture and Miriam and Mark’s to establish their own sustainable farming operation closer to home.

Learn more about our Farmer Landowner Match Program on our website.

“Conservation means the wise use of the earth and its resources for the lasting good of men.” —Gifford Pinchot
In a day and age when more and more people are spending time indoors, plugged-in rather than exploring the wonders of our natural world, we feel it’s important to offer opportunities to get people to learn about, understand, and value nature and the outdoors, ensuring that our current and future generations care about the land and are good stewards of its resources.

2014 brought many opportunities to learn something new:

At the Forests and Wetlands for Flood Management seminar, participants explored the role that natural habitats, specifically forests and wetlands, play in flood mitigation.

The fair weather and promise of exciting competition drew many spectators to the Caora Farm Sheep Dog Trials where many of the top US and Canadian handlers competed their dogs with the challenging cheviot sheep. Other activities at the event included woods and wetlands walks on the farm and sheep herding demonstrations.

Kildonan School students enjoyed a day of history and environmental discovery when they held their field day at the Dover Stone Church Preserve.

Attendees at the screening of the film, Green Fire: Aldo Leopold and a Land Ethic for Our Time, discussed Leopold’s land ethic with his biographer, Dr. Curt Meine, in a question and answer session after the film.

Residents of The Fountains at Millbrook were introduced to land conservation and DLC’s work.

Students at the Salisbury School taught DLC a little about our carbon footprint and ways to improve it.

The Ducks Unlimited Great Swamp Shoot and Conservation Program allowed attendees a chance to learn about the value of wetlands conservation.

Our Realtor friends joined us at a gathering at Tamarack Preserve, giving them the chance to enjoy conversations about DLC’s mission and become informed about new developments in land conservation.

Volunteers learned the basics of environmental stewardship as entry-level trail maintainers at a workshop at Dover Stone Church Preserve.

The local community was also able to learn about land conservation through our educational displays at Earth Day at Dover High School and the Orvis Game Fair.

Conversations on Land Conservation: This year local planning officials gathered to discuss land conservation, town zoning, and open space issues during our “Conversations on Land Conservation,” designed to facilitate informal discussions with town officials, farmers, land use consultants, attorneys, and landowners about how we can best work together to achieve our collective conservation goals.

Online Mapping for Municipal Officials: Local officials and volunteers at the Web Mapping Resources course learned how to use various free, on-line web mapping resources that identify site-specific environmental characteristics, and illustrate the larger context and significance of a property. Viewing these resources on maps (building a natural resource inventory) can help guide a municipality’s effort to encourage better site design and to protect environmental resources. The course is endorsed by the Dutchess County Planning Federation, giving participants 4.0 hours of training toward meeting the New York State mandatory training requirement for Planning and Zoning Board officials.

“Teaching children about the natural world should be treated as one of the most important events in their lives.” - Thomas Berry
Our very important partners – our Stewards of the Land – are essential allies who manage and steward their conservation easement protected properties into the future. (Please note that while some of our easement donors have passed away, we still list their names out of great respect for their commitment to land conservation.)

Mr. Stephen Abel & Family
- O. Vincent Abel Inc.
Mr. and Mrs. Munir Abu-Haidar
Mr. and Mrs. Ramzi Abu-Haidar
Mrs. Binti Ackley
Ms. Elizabeth Allen
Ms. Saralyn Allen
Ames, LLC
Mr. James Archer
Mr. and Mrs. Jon Arnason
Ms. Eve Ashcraft
Mr. Al Attara
Ms. Kathleen Vuillet Augustine
- Sunnyside Farm, LLC
Mr. and Mrs. Jack Auspitz
Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Babcock
- F.H.B. Resources, LLC
Mr. and Mrs. John B. Babcock
Mr. Al Attara
Mr. and Mrs. Duke Buchan, III
- Flint Hill, LLC
Mr. and Mrs. Donald Booth
Mr. and Mrs. Timothy A. Boroughs
Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Borsch
Mr. Thomas Boucher
Ms. Katherine Boyer
Ms. Deborah Brasher
Ms. Melode Brasher
Mr. William Bricker
Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Brodsky
Mr. and Mrs. Holson Brown
Mr. John Bruno
- Oak Summit Vineyard, Inc.
Mr. and Mrs. James Bisceglia
Mr. Stephen Blauner and
Mr. Kenneth Shelley
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Biezynski
Mr. and Mrs. James Bisceglia
Mr. and Mrs. Jonathan Beatson-Hird
Ms. Karen Bechtel
Mr. Justin Beeber
Mr. and Mrs. Steven Benardete
Mr. Steven Berger and
Ms. Cynthia Wainwright
Mr. J. Addison Berkey, III
Ms. Stephanie Bernheim
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Biezynski
Mr. and Mrs. James Bisceglia
Mr. Stephen Blauner and
Mr. Kenneth Shelley
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Caseiras
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Cassara
Dr. Carol Caton
Mrs. Jane Chaffee
Mr. Michael Chamberlin
and Ms. Margaret O’Brien
Mr. and Mrs. William Chappell, Jr.
Dr. Stephen Chernay
Mr. Craig Chesley and Ms. Eileen Naughton
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Gitin
Mr. and Mrs. David Clapp
Clark Hill Farm, Inc./Country Lands
Mr. John Egan
Mr. and Mrs. James M. Edwards
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Edmeades
Dr. Anne Dyson
Ms. Mary Dusenbury
Ms. Janet Durrschmidt
Mr. and Mrs. Wolcott B. Dunham, Jr.
Ms. Josephine P. Downey
Mr. Leo Downey
Mr. Edward Downey
- Carpe Diem Farm, LLC
Ms. Diandra de Morrell Douglas and Ms. Carina Liebeknecht
Mr. Andrew Dietderich
Mr. and Mrs. Vasant Dhar
Mr. Willem de Vogel
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Dee
Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Cunningham
Ms. Ellen W. Curtis Boiselle
Mr. Jeptha P. Curtis
Ms. Sarah M. Curtis
Ms. Catharine Cusack
Ms. Sarah
Mr. and Mrs. David Dase and Ms. Jacqueline Flake
Mr. G.W. Davison-Ackley
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Day
Mr. David Densho
Mrs. Margaret
Mr. Willem de Vogel
Mr. and Mrs. Vasant Dhar
Mr. Andrew Dietderich
and Ms. Carina Liebeknecht
Ms. Diandra de Morrell Douglas - Carpe Diem Farm, LLC
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Mr. Edward Downey
Mr. Leo Downey
Ms. Josephine P. Downey
Mr. and Mrs. Wolcott B. Dunham, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Durbridge
Ms. Janet Durrtschmidt
Ms. Mary Dusenbury
Dr. Anne Dyson
Mr. and Mrs. John Dyson
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Edmeades
Mr. and Mrs. James M. Edwards
- Miller Pond Farm, Inc.
Mr. John Egan
Mr. and Mrs. John Mandel, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Mandel
Mr. Peter C. Mann and Ms. Diane Wheeler
Dr. Monte J. Marder
Marist College
Ms. Lenore Maroney
and Ms. Dorothy Distel
Mr. David J. Marshall
Mr. David Marshall
- Marshall's Outback Property, LLC
Mr. and Mrs. Timothy Marshall
- Bos Haven Farms, Inc.
Mr. and Mrs. Frank Martucci
- East Heartland Corp.
Mr. Erich Mauff
and Ms. Adele Griffin-Watson
Mr. and Mrs. Timothy Mayhew
Mrs. Joan McCarthy
- Cloverbrook Farm, Inc.
Mr. James McCarthy
- Cloverbrook Farm, Inc.
Estate of Ms. Elizabeth McClintock
Mr. and Mrs. Matthew McDermott
Mr. and Mrs. Michael McMahon
Mrs. Barbara McNulty
Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Mead
- Mead Orchards, LLC
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Mead
- Mead Orchards, LLC
Mr. James Melcher - JLLA LLC
Mr. and Mrs. Guy Merison
Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton W. Meserve
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Messerich
Mrs. Barbara Meyer
Mr. and Mrs. Scott Meyer
Bette Midler Family Trust
Mr. Patrick Migliore
Mr. and Mrs. Frank Migliorelli
Mr. Kenneth Migliorelli
Milan Rural Space Group, LLC
Millbrook Land Associates, LLC
MEC, Inc.
Millbrook Rod and Gun Club
Millbrook School
Millbrook Vineyards and Winery, Inc.
Monnell Properties, LLC
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Ms. Eileen M. Moore
Mr. and Mrs. Larry Moran
Ms. Kelly A. Morgan
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Morgenthau
- Fishkill Farms Realty Associates, LLC
Mr. Joshua Morgenthau
- Fishkill Farms Realty Associates, LLC
Mr. Bernard Morrison and Mr. Leonard Morrison - Silver Mountain Farm
Partnership
Mr. Peter Moskowitz
and Mr. Christopher Staples
Mr. Brian Murphy and Mr. Kevin Murphy
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Murphy
Mr. Glenn Murphy
Ms. Lynn Murphy
- Deer Hollow Farm, LLC
Mr. Ronald Maffio
Ms. Nancy Nesle and Mr. Allan Herrick
New Deal Development, Inc.
New Horizon Resources, Inc.
Mr. Ben Nickoll - Route 199 LLC
North Meadows Associates, Ltd.
North Dutchess Properties, Inc.
Northern Dutchess Properties
Northwest Farms, Inc.
Dr. and Mrs. Fernando Nottebohm
Oblong Valley, LLC
Mr. and Mrs. Dan O'Brien
Mrs. Louise O'Keefe
Mr. Daniel Odell
Mr. and Mrs. David Offensend
- Barlow Farm, LLC
Old Dalton Farm, LLC
Mr. Stuart O'Neil
Mr. Stephen Oresman
The Orvis Co. Inc. - Sandanona
Mr. Randall Oser - Randallo, Inc.
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Ostrow
Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Ottaway
Ms. Diana Paine
Mr. Barclay Ottaway and Ms. Dana Covin
Mr. Rodney Paterson and Ms. Susan Heath
Mrs. Ruth Peale
Mr. Jeremy Peele - Silvermills, LLC and
Wiltsie Bridge, LLC
Mr. and Mrs. George Perkins
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Perkins
Mr. and Mrs. Eric C. Petersen
Ms. Florence Peyrelongue
Mr. and Mrs. Guy Peyrelongue
Mr. Bruce Pezzin and Mrs. Miriam Tannen
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Pickering
Mr. and Mrs. Neil Pierson
Mr. and Mrs. James Pinto
Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Pizzella
Mr. Ian Plimsoll and Ms. Lisa Mehling
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Podris
Mr. Aldo Portolano
Ms. Nicole Potter and Mr. Daniel Potter
Mr. L. Richard Poulin
and Mr. Douglas A. Morris
Mr. and Mrs. Henry H. Prieger
Ms. Lyndon Preston
Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Pulver
and Mrs. John Pulver and Family
- Pulver Farm, Inc.
Mr. and Mrs. Augustus Putnam
Mr. Taylor Pyne
Mr. and Mrs. Jack Quarantaro
Mr. John Quarantaro
Mr. Paul Quarantaro
Ms. Theresa Quarantaro
Mr. Robert Quinan
- Hiddenhurst Farm, LLC
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Rapaport
- Shekomeko Hill Farm LLC
Religious of the Sacred Heart
Mr. and Mrs. John N. Regan, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. John Reid
Mr. and Mrs. Bradley Reifler
Mr. Michael Rena
Mr. and Mrs. Justin Rebideau
Mr. Joseph Rinaldi
Mr. and Mrs. Peter Riva
Mr. and Mrs. Eric Roberts
Mr. and Mrs. John Rockwell
Mr. and Mrs. Simon Roosevelt
Mr. David Rosenberg
and Ms. Robyn Cutler
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Rosenberger
Mr. and Mrs. Eric Rosenfeld
Mr. Daniel Rothvoss Jr.
Mr. Daniel Rothvoss, Sr. and Mrs. Rosalie
Rothvoss - H. Rothvoss & Sons, Inc.
Mr. Lawrence Rubin
Saint Anna Housing
Saint Simeon Foundation, Inc.
Saint Simeon II Housing
Samuel F.B. Morse Historic Site
Mrs. Cynthia Salzhauer
Mr. and Mrs. George Sanderson
Dr. Thomas Sanford
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Mrs. Molly Schaefer
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Schaefer
Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Schiller
Mr. and Mrs. Verna Schrom
Mr. Henry Schwartz and Ms. Beverly Semmes
Mr. John Schwartz
Ms. Roseanne Scuola
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Estate of Olive Seaman
Mr. Philippe Segalot
Mr. and Mrs. Robin Sen
Mr. Ottavio Serena di Lapigio
Mrs. Elizabeth Shafer
Mr. and Mrs. Walter Shapiro
Shekomeko Village Company, Inc.
Mr. and Mrs. Allan Shore
Simba Lane Farm, LLC
Simons, Ltd.
Mr. Merrill Sandler
Mr. Allen Sleight
Mr. Elliott Sleight
Mr. Daniel Slott
Mr. Henry Smedley and Ms. Kathryn Chow
Mr. Kevin Smith and Mr. Greg Smith
Mr. and Mrs. Leon Smith
Mr. Douglas Smyth
Mrs. Olga Smyth
South Ameina Partners, LLC
Sprout Creek Farm, Inc.
Ms. Judith H. Stanley
Mr. Jeffrey Stark
Ms. Bonnie Stedl
Steeplechase Acres, LLC
Mr. Julian Steinberg and Ms. Abigail Kazam
Mr. John Steiner
Mr. and Mrs. Rockwell Stensrud
Mrs. Sarah T. Stephenson
Mr. David Stewart
Mr. Chauncey Stillman
Mr. and Mrs. Henry Stolzman
Mr. and Mrs. Allan Streichler
Three Pond Farm, LLC
Stuart Properties Corporation
Mr. and Mrs. Peter Sturges
Ms. Cari Swanson
Ms. Korin Swanson
Mr. Jeffrey Taubeck and Ms. Inanna Donnelly
Mr. Robert Tannenhauser
Mr. Brook Taube
Mr. and Mrs. Tucker Taylor
Mr. and Mrs. Peter Thelerpine
T.G.L. Inc. - Laufred Farms
Mr. and Mrs. Philip Tipton
Mr. Robert Tipton
Mr. and Mrs. John C. R. Tompkins
Town of Dover
2014 CONSERVATION ACHIEVEMENTS

Our most sincere thanks to the following people for placing conservation easements on their properties in 2014 protecting over 650 acres, and joining us as Stewards of the Land:

Donald and Mary Booth placed an easement on their 251-acre farm in North East; Frank Vosburgh of Kesicke Farm Cattle, Inc. preserved 72 acres of his family's farm in the Town of Red Hook; Julian Steinberg and Abigail Kazam protected 77 acres of their property in the Town of Stanford; The Town of Dover placed an easement on a 79-acre property to be added to the Dover Stone Church Preserve; The Klose Family preserved 105 acres of their farm in the Town of Red Hook; Peter Gallagher protected 48 acres of his property in Ancram; and Dan Slott placed an easement on his 40-acre property in the Town of Ancram.
“In every walk with nature one receives far more than he seeks.”—John Muir

Views from the new trails at the Dover Stone Church Preserve
It was an absolutely gorgeous day for our 23rd Annual Fall Country Luncheon held this year on October 12th at beautiful Rally Farms. Catered by the Farmer’s Wife and with music by The Hayrollers, we had our first ever sold-out event! Thanks so much to our Co-Chairs Tim Bontecou and Diane Chapman for all they did to ensure that the event was a great success and raised much-needed funds for our programs!

Our thanks to our Underwriters – your support makes our events possible! And sincere gratitude to the following: to Jesse and Gayle Bontecou for allowing us to use their beautiful farm; to Felicity Bontecou who created and donated the gorgeous flower arrangements; to our Silent Auction donors for their wonderful items; to DLC Board member Olivia van Melle Kamp and DLC member Robyn Cutler for volunteering their time to help out; to Crystal Rock and Twin Brooks Gardens for their very generous donations; and to Bank of Millbrook for sponsoring the luncheon in part.

Photos: Barbara Beatty Photography
Our **Inaugural Spring Barn Dinner Dance**, held May 10th at the **Silver Mountain Hay Barn** in Millerton, was a spectacular event and outstanding success! Over 250 attendees were treated to a beautifully decorated, architecturally inspiring barn setting, delicious hors d’oeuvres and dinner with specialty cocktails by Stissing House, a brilliantly entertaining live auction with guest auctioneer Gordon Elliott, as well as a great silent auction, and an evening of dancing to the music of the Mike Barry Band. A wonderful time was had by all who attended, and we hope to see you all there next year!

We owe deep gratitude to an amazing group of dedicated people who came together to ensure the success of our event:

Thanks so much to our gracious **hosts**, **Scot Galliher and Katherine Leech**, who allowed us to use their gorgeous barn, and to their **Farm Manager Bruce and staff** for all of their help; to our amazing **Co-Chairs**: **Jodi and Andrew Dady**, **Patricia and Alexander Farman-Farmaian**, **Jennifer Hand and Thomas Tierney**, **Lolita and Simon Roosevelt**, and to our **Committee Members**: **Stephen Blauner and Kenneth Shelley**, **Helen Blodgett**, **Christin Brecher**, **Bridget and Mark Colman**, **Holly Kelly and Andrew Lipsky**, **Victoria Love-Salnikoff and Yuri Salnikoff**, and **David Thieringer**, who planned, organized, designed, vetted, decorated, supported, and truly inspired the event; to our fantastic **auctioneer**, **Gordon Elliott**, who ensured maximum bids combined with great fun; to **Patricia and Michel Jean of Stissing House** for working so closely with us and delivering such wonderful cuisine; and the **Mike Barry Band** for sharing your talents throughout the night. We’d also like to thank our **Underwriters**, **Auction Donors**, and **Auction Winners** for your wonderful generosity, and all who supported and attended the event – we couldn’t have done it without all of you!

*Photos: Barbara Beatty Photography*
Dear Members,

On behalf of the entire board, I extend our sincere thanks for the strong financial support you provided in 2014. Thanks to the consistently dedicated backing of our Trustees of the Land and members, DLC’s annual fund campaign was a true success.

Again, many thanks,

Ralph Weindling
Treasurer

2014 Statement of Financial Position

ASSETS
Cash/Cash Equivalents $ 693,981
Unconditional Promises to Give 71,200
Certificates of Deposit 155,850
Prepaid Expenses 21,895
Property, Equipment (net Depreciation) 161,482
Investments (endowment & restr. gifts) 5,269,254
Property Held for Sale 106,000
Other Assets 0

Total Assets $ 6,479,662

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS
Accounts Payable $ 30,747
Accrued Expenses 7,815
Temporarily Restricted 2,303,680
Permanently Restricted 631,087
Board Designated 3,068,351
Unrestricted 437,982

Total Liabilities & Net Assets $ 6,479,662

2014 Statement of Activities

REVENUE AND SUPPORT
Operating Revenue
Contributions $1,107,380
Grants 156,600
Consulting Services 9,319
Events (net of expenses) 138,394
Donated Rent 25,200
Interest-Bank 724
Donated Legal Services 20,314

Operating Revenue $ 1,457,931

Non-Operating Revenue
Gain-Securities $ 190,929
Investment Income-Dividends 45,555
Grant for Purchase of Land 62,900
Stewardship Endowment Contributions 37,975

Total Revenue $ 1,795,290

EXPENSES
Operating Expenses
Program Services
Land Conservation $ 610,633
Stewardship 317,978
Education 181,037
Administrative 124,742
Development/Marketing 64,867

Total Operating Expenses $ 1,299,257

Non-Operating Expenses
Writedown of Property Held for Sale $ 14,000
and of Donated Artwork 1,000

Total Expenses $ 1,314,257

Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets $ 481,033
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Oakleigh Thorne,
Vice Chairman
Olivia van Melle Kamp
Secretary
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Treasurer
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Barry Chase
Constance I. Duhamel
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Leslie Farhangi
Thomas Flexner
Nancy N. Hathaway
Thomas W. Keesee
Bradford Kendall
Christopher L. Mann
Timothy Mayhew
Chuck Mead
Eric D. Rosenfeld
Molly Schaefer
David R. Teter
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Fred Whitridge, Jr.
Ross Williams

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Stewardship Associate
Erin Hoagland
Stewardship & Land Planning Associate

New York State Council on the Arts
The Dutchess Land Conservancy’s programs are made possible in part with public funds from the New York State Council on the Arts, a state agency.