



Chesapeake Bay String of Pearls Ceremony

Historical Society for Talbot County
Easton, Maryland
June 20th, 2013



The Chesapeake Bay String of Pearls Project

stringofpearls.org 410-858-6312

Welcome!

The Chesapeake Bay String of Pearls Project, Eastern Shore Land Conservancy, Maryland Department of Natural Resources, and the Maryland Environmental Trust are happy you are here today to recognize and celebrate those who have preserved lands in the Chesapeake Bay watershed. We are also here to witness the registering of “pearls” in the Chesapeake Bay String of Pearls Register. The register will be in permanent public view in the circuit courthouse on Church Circle in Annapolis in recognition of those who have acted to preserve land and protect the Chesapeake Bay watershed.

For the first time, we’ve connected with artists who have painted pictures of the new “pearls” (and several pearls created in previous ceremonies). All pictures are on display here. Tying together those who preserve the land through art connects our heritage, culture, and our inner feelings for the land. It takes the message forward to a higher, personal level ... to preserve the Bay we must protect the land!

Besides honoring land donors today and expressing appreciation to the artists -- many are here -- the Eastern Shore Land Conservancy, the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, the Maryland Environmental Trust and their staffs deserve special credit. They are doing the difficult job of saving Chesapeake Bay one property at a time.

These three land preservation organizations have worked to protect the seven properties and hold the easements on them. The seven pearl creators honored today preserved land in watersheds of Talbot and Dorchester counties. Each property is different and each has its own story as to why it was protected. The commonality between these land owners is that they came forward and acted. Their action protects the Bay to the benefit of all of us.

Dick Lahn, Director



CEREMONY

Welcome: Maryland State Senator Edward Reilly, Member of the String of Pearls Advisory Committee

Introduction: Robert Duckworth, Clerk, Circuit Court of Anne Arundel County, Member of String of Pearls Board of Directors

Purpose of The String of Pearls Project: Dick Lahn, Director Chesapeake Bay String of Pearls Project

Remarks: Rob Etgen, Director of the Eastern Shore Land Conservancy

Introduction of Honorees & Remarks on Individual Pearls:
Rob Etgen and Dick Lahn

Presentation of Citations, Signing of Register: Robert Duckworth

Final Words: Dick Lahn

Reception follows immediately

Thank You to the following supporters for providing food and drink for the reception:

Wine, Epic Wines, Crofton, MD; *Spring water,* Chesapeake Exxon, Annapolis; *Cheeses,* Chapel's Country Creamery, Easton; *Cookies,* A Cook's Cafe, Annapolis



Train Farm

Train Family and the memory of Russell Train Bozman, Talbot County

The Train property easement to the Eastern Shore Land Conservancy was created on December 31, 1998. It is 197.84 acres with shoreline along Grace Creek and Leadenham Creek. This farm is being magnificently maintained for wildlife and scenic beauty. Improvements in the last year include the addition of 5 wetland ponds and the planting of 2,000 - 3,000 trees (in deer tubes). A wide variety of bird life are seen on the property - turkeys, wood ducks, killdeer, red-winged blackbirds, egrets, herons, as well as numer-

ous song birds. There are 14 species of oaks on the property, and an orchard is being developed along the lane with apple, peach, plum, and pecan trees.





Hutchison Brothers Farm

Hutchison Brothers
Cordova, Talbot County

The Hutchinson's donated three easements to Eastern Shore Land Conservancy (coheld with DNR) on March 29, 2010. This was a complex project that lasted for years and resulted in opportunities for a farming family to keep farming and the protection of almost 500 acres of land in Talbot County. All the properties are along Lewistown Road. The eastern property on Lewistown Road is 219.54 acres, the north western property on the road is 135.1 acres and the south

western property is 143.7 acres. All the parcels are prime farmland and are supporting the next generation of Talbot County farm families.





Good Luck Farms

Cambridge, Dorchester County

Good Luck Farm was preserved through the ESLC in December of 2007 and easement was later amended in 2008 to add the Maryland Department of Natural Resources and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The easement preserved over 1,435 acres of farmland and forest. The preservation was made possible by the efforts of and funding from Eastern Shore Land Conservancy, The Nature Conservancy, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the MD

Department of Natural Resources. The property was preserved primarily to protect important habitat for the endangered Delmarva Fox Squirrel that utilizes the greater than 970 acres of forest on the property and to that purpose the USFWS provided Section 6 endangered species protection funds to the project. Over 420 acres of productive farmland and over 900 acres of Forest Interior Dwelling bird habitat were preserved.



Hugh Horning Property

Hugh B. Horning

Cambridge, Dorchester County

The Horning Property is 17.26 acres on Hill's Point Cove and is entirely in the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area. The property is approximately 4 acres of home site, 13 acres tillable land, a small pond and a 1-2 acre grass airstrip. The property has approximately 400 feet of shoreline along Hill's Point Cove and about 400 feet of road frontage on Hill's Point Road. The landowner donated an easement on the property in 1991. The 1877 atlas of Dorchester County indicates two structures in the immediate proximity to the Horning Property. These

structures and the location of the property indicate that the parcel has a good potential for containing both prehistoric and historic archeological resources that have not yet been identified. The residents have also found on the property a button from a colonial military uniform. An avid aviator Hugh keeps a Cessna airplane in his shed/hanger for quick get aways.

Easement held by the Eastern Shore Land Conservancy and MET.



Mowbray Farm

Libby Handley Nagel / Smokey Farms in memory
of her father Henry Handley
Vienna, Dorchester County

Mowbray Farm owned by Libby Handley Nagel was preserved in June 2011. Easement is coheld between ESLC and DNR. This is a large rural farm tract on the south side of Drawbridge Road in Fork Neck consisting of 708 acres, 330.5 tillable and 377.5 of coastal plain forest. The property was preserved to protect habitat for the endangered Delmarva fox squirrel. The preservation of this farm was made possible through partnerships with The Nature Conservancy, Eastern Shore Land Conservancy, U.S. Fish and

Wildlife Service, and Maryland Department of Natural Resources. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife provided monies from section 6 Endangered Species protection funding for the project. The preservation of the property also protected forest interior dwelling bird habitat, wild turkeys, the water quality of Hurlock Creek and the scenic views along a stretch of rural roadways. Values of preserving land was learned from her father the late Henry Handley and has had a major influence on her life.



Griffith Farm

Wayne Griffith

Federalsburg, Dorchester County



Wayne Griffith has contributed four easements to Eastern Shore Land Conservancy. He worked with MET and ESLC to ease two properties in 2001 totaling 141.7 acres and with DNR and ESLC to ease two properties in 2008 totaling 180.43 acres. Both properties donated in 2008 have frontage on South Davis Mill Pond. All the parcels are prime farmland and are supporting the next generation of Dorchester County farm families.



Point Pleasant Farm

Robert A. Pascal

Bozman, Talbot County

Point Pleasant Farm is located on Broad Creek near the mouth of the Choptank River and its confluence with the Chesapeake Bay. Point Pleasant Farm, nearly 1,000 acres, encompasses the entire peninsula extending into Broad Creek, supplying over 8 miles of undeveloped shoreline with hundreds of acres of forests, wetlands, farmland, and river bottom with submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV), important for High Priority breeding, migrating, and wintering waterfowl. The diverse plant communities of approximately 200 woody and herbaceous species support nearly 200 bird species frequent the proper-

ty throughout the year. Resident fauna is comprised of nearly two dozen reptiles, fifteen mammal species and a lively array of butterflies, dragonflies, and other insects crucial to the food web are found throughout the fields and forests of the farm.

The large farm was once a du Pont family hunting preserve and then became a National Audubon Society Sanctuary before being purchased by Robert Pascal, former Anne Arundel County Executive and business man. In donating the easement for the property to the MD Department of Natural Resources in December, 2011, the

land is forever preserved and protected from development. The property won't be a park but can be used by the public by making special arrangements. "It would

be a tragedy to develop it," Pascal said. "I just think it ought to be shared as much as possible with as many people as you can," he said.

String of Pearls Board of Directors

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