

# RATTLESNAKE GUTTER TRUST

P.O. Box 195

LEVERETT; MASSACHUSETTS 01054

1994 ANNUAL REPORT - RATTLESNAKE GUTTER TRUST  
Annual Meeting, April 20, 1994  
Leverett Town Hall, 7:30 PM

One major accomplishment of the Trust this past year has been finalizing the acquisition of the Long Hill Natural Area. It was in 1988 when the Trust was informed of a group's interest in acquiring that property. The Trust responded with financial support and loans and in 1992 voted to accept ownership as requested. In October the deed was signed and on November 7 there was a celebration on the top of the hill of the preservation forever of this lovely spot, for the enjoyment of all.

Adding our support to the devotion of Portia Weiskel in preserving the pristine quality of our town center, the Trust purchased a conservation easement on her land between Putney Road and the lake. Our dream of a pond walkway was furthered both by this act and by trustee Dave Field's donation to the Conservation Commission of a land parcel on Depot Road.

During several meetings with school officials, we have encouraged a renewal of our liason with the Hitchcock Center, which had its roots in Leverett. In the Library, in addition to sharing printed material, a terrarium with changing contents has been enjoyed, thanks to Perky Greeley. Watch for its reappearance in the future. And in February, an outstanding issue of the NEWSLETTER, printed by our good friends at Oxbow Press, was sent to all Leverett residents. Our new T-shirt design by Cynthia Thomas Kimmel sold out immediately and was quickly reordered. We know it is being worn as far away as Australia!

But the most amazing achievement is happening at our 5c refundable booth at the Town Dump. If the cans collected there were laid end to end, they would line both sides of our town roads from the Shutesbury line on North Leverett road, down past the Co-op, on to Chap's, down Cave Hill past the School, past the Post Office to East Leverett and the Dump. There they have been hauled in by Gordon King and Dave Field and brought to Belchertown and Monson, where they provide state residents with useful work. They have preserved land space at our Dump, kept our roadsides and homesites clear of trash and in less than 4 years brought in \$11,000, used by the Trust to preserve Leverett's unique places! Yeah, Gordon, Dave and all who contributed!