

Annual Meeting May 1995

RATTLESNAKE GUTTER TRUST

P.O. Box 195

LEVERETT, MASSACHUSETTS 01054

1995 ANNUAL REPORT - RATTLESNAKE GUTTER TRUST

Annual Meeting, May 11, 1995

Leverett Town Hall, 7:30 PM

Our focus this year has been to increase our knowledge of conservation easements and estate planning. We have appreciated the help of LeeAnn Warner, who shared information of the Forest Legacy Program. She also donated a video and books on estate planning. These are now in the Leverett Library, with other conservation material in the RGT corner. Feel free to browse and borrow.

This work led us to establish guidelines in accepting conservation easements, as we respond to requests for assistance. It also led to our developing tonight's program. The Leverett Home/Land Game, is adapted from the Planning Game Bob Biagi created several years ago. The purpose of our game is to encourage thinking about land use and preservation methods, easements, gifts and tax benefits.

Management of our Long Hill Natural Area has included purchasing a culvert, which the highway department installed, clearing obstructions to the view from the top, general cleanup. Trustees also reviewed the common area of Laurel Hill, on which we hold a conservation easement.

The recycle bin at the Town Landfill continues to be our best fund-raiser, now over \$13,000, thanks to the steady efforts of Gordon King and David Field. This year we replaced the LEVERETT CALENDAR with post cards and note paper, using some of our favorite CALENDAR images, as well as some reproductions from the files of the Leverett Historical Society. We will continue to add new images, so watch the displays at the Leverett Co-op, the Post Office and Library.

Our annual membership drive in February, along with our new brochure, was sent to all Leverett residents and our out-of-town supporters. Returns are nearing \$1,000 and include 21 new members. It's never too late to join! This money covers our modest operating expenses.

Memorial gifts were given in the names of:

- GEORGE R. GALIPEAU
- CATHERINE FIELD
- ARCHIE MADDEN
- FREDERICK T. BASHOUR

We are continually indebted to Oxbow Press, for their superb production of our new brochure, our Newsletters, the Cards and Notes.

We also wish to recognize with much appreciation the assistance of Julie Shively, who continues to serve as our treasurer.

Trustees: Priscilla Greeley · Matthew Kely · Gordon King · Annette Gibavic · Kathy Addelson · Albert Shane · David Palmer · David Field
Steven Weiss · Jean Bergstrom · Evelyn Schuyler · Roberta Bannister · Stephen Schmidt *Associate Trustees:* Evan Perkins · Matthew Godsey