

Calendar

February 28– Mr. Scott Coleman –History of the Great Falls Armory
March 28 - Hike at Forty Acre Rock with Dr. Bill Rogers.
April 18 - Spring bird counts
April 18 – 4th Annual “Toast to the Trees”
May 7 - Ms. Ashley Graham – Life history of the Eastern box turtle
May 14 – Zurenda book signing at the Duke Farm
May 17 - Lilyfest
August 6 - Ms. Lyne Askins – Sandhills National Wildlife Refuge

Note Cards Available



Mary Brown’s beautiful note cards of area wild flowers and our special places are available at the KVLТ office. The purchase of these note cards benefits the land trust. For more information call 803-285-5801 or stop by 106 E. Meeting St.

The Katawba Valley Land Trust is a private, nonprofit conservation organization dedicated to the protection of natural resources, open lands, waters, and historic resources in the Catawba River Valley and surrounding areas. To date, KVLТ has protected **over 10,700** acres of land in five South Carolina counties.

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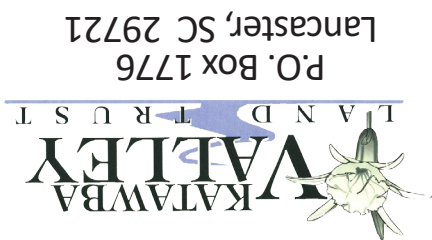


Photo by
Angel Estridge



Yellow Poplar
Dick Christie



Autumn Leaves
Dick Christie

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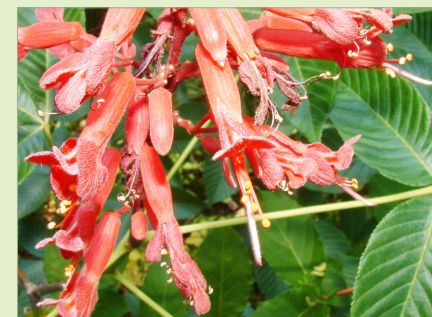
Spring 2020 Newsletter

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2019 Was A Good Year For Land Protection

KVLТ completed 10 conservation projects in 2019. These included four property acquisitions for the Lindsay Pettus Greenway, four conservation easements, one sale and one easement transfer.

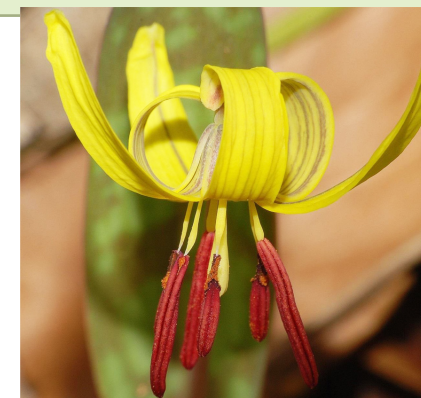
Conservation easements were placed on 476-acres, and the winners include all of us who appreciate the natural shoreline of the Catawba River or have a taste for revolutionary war history. The largest easement is a 294-acre easement at the Battle of Camden that will ioncreae the



Aesculus pavia
Red Buckeye

property at that site to about 770 acres. A 150-acre easement on the Nisbet farm on Catawba River in Van Wyck, which was purchased from the family at a bargain sale

with funding obtained from Duke Energy’s Habitat Enhancement Program, adds to 907-acres already protected in the Van Wyck area and now totals 1,057 acres.



Erythronium umbilicatum
Dimpled trout lily

In addition to those property acquisitions and easements, we sold one small tract near Stoneboro but required the purchaser establish an easement as a condition of sale. And the final transaction was the transfer of an easement that is located in Marlboro County. The land trust normally makes it a practice to create easements and not give them away. This was a beautiful property on Crooked Creek near Bennettsville that was obtained in 1997 when we were the only game in town. But the 150-mile round trip required for monitoring did not make good business sense, and the monitoring work will now be conducted by the Pee Dee Land Trust located in Florence.

The truth is we could not protect any of these properties alone, and we would like to thank all of our partners including the property donors, the South Carolina Battleground Preservation Trust, the Nisbet family, Duke Energy and all of our membership and Corporate Sponsors for helping KVLТ have a banner year in land protection.



Clitoria mariana
Atlantic pigeonwings

Lindsay Pettus Greenway Update

Great progress has been made on Phase I of the Lindsay Pettus Greenway. Bridges are in, construction on the Environmental Education Center is going well, and much of the board walk is completed. Hopefully, we are on schedule to celebrate the opening in the early fall. It is not too late to support the LPGW, and tax-deductible contributions can be mailed to *LPGW, P.O. Box 1776, Lancaster, SC 29721*.



Construction Begins on The Greenway
Dick Christie

Comments from the Director

I wrapped up my second year with the land trust, and if I had to choose one word to describe it, that word would be “busy”. We had a great year, and we achieved many of our conservation goals. We updated a KVLТ brochure and completed a flowering plant guide for Landsford Canal State Park. We had a successful speaker series (4) and a number (5) of outdoor events. And we completed 11 property transactions that will permanently protect about 475-acres of land in the local area. One of these, the Nisbet farm, will protect 150 acres on the banks of the Catawba River near the community of Van Wyck. This easement adds to almost 1,000 acres protected in that area of the river.

None of this would have happened without the support from the KVLТ Board, our membership and our Corporate Sponsors. The KVLТ family has a lot to be proud of 2020 looks very bright as well for our environmental program and our land protection efforts.

We have an incredible diversity of projects underway, including the LPGW in Lancaster, the Nitrolee Access Area improvement and interpretive center near Great Falls, and Accreditation by the Land trust Alliance. And 2020 holds promise for outings at places like Forty Acre Rock, Rocky Creek, Landsford Canal State Park and Benford Brewery.

I hope you can join us for some of these events, and get outside and let the sights, the sounds, the smells and the tastes of mother nature fill your senses with joy and wonder. Thanks for being a party of the KVLТ family and for your help in making the world a better place. Best wishes for 2020.



Executive Director
Richard Christie

Stakeholder Notification/Public Notice

The Land Trust Alliance (LTA) accreditation program recognizes land conservation organizations that meet national quality standards for protecting important natural places and working lands forever. Katawba Valley Land Trust (KVLТ) is pleased to announce it is applying for accreditation. A public comment period is now open.

The Land Trust Accreditation Commission (Commission), an independent program of the LTA, conducts an extensive review of each applicant’s policies and programs. Achieving accreditation means it is important to the KVLТ Board and staff to conduct all of our conservation projects in a professional manner and in compliance with National standards.

The Commission invites public input and accepts signed, written comments on pending applications. Comments must relate to how KVLТ complies with national quality standards. These standards address the ethical and technical operation of a land trust. For the full list of standards see <http://www.landtrustaccreditation.org/help-and-resources/indicator-practices>.

To learn more about the accreditation program and to submit a comment, visit www.landtrustaccreditation.org, or email your comment to info@landtrustaccreditation.org. Comments may also be faxed or mailed to the Land Trust Accreditation Commission, Attn: Public Comments: (fax) 518-587-3183; (mail) 36 Phila Street, Suite 2, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866.

Comments on KVLТ’s application will be most useful if received by July 15, 2020.