

# JOIN NOW!!

Edisto Island Open Land Trust needs your help to preserve & protect our island treasure. A 12 month membership entitles you to the land trust newsletter, organization events, and the knowledge that you are contributing to a noble cause. And, of course, it's also tax deductible.

**Please mail your tax deductible contribution to:**

EDISTO ISLAND OPEN LAND TRUST  
P.O. BOX 1  
EDISTO ISLAND, SC 29438

- INDIVIDUAL      \$35  
 FAMILY            \$50  
 PATRON            \$100  
 SPONSOR          \$500  
 BENEFACTOR      \$1000  
 OTHER/CORP./IN HONOR/MEMORY OF \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**THANK YOU!**

## CURRENT MEMBERSHIP LIST

Dr. and Mrs. Ritchie H. Belser, Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Berretta, Mr. and Mrs. Richard M. Cutler, Mr. Dennis B. Davidson, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur F. Doty, III, Ms. Joan M. Fort, Mr. & Mrs. Sidney A. Gauthreaux, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. John A. Gill, Dr. and Mrs. J.F. Graves, Mr. and Mrs. James O. Kempson, Mr. Neil Levithan and Ms. Adrienne Love, Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Locatis, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph T. Low, Mr. and Mrs. Richmond M. Luke, Mr. and Mrs. David Lybrand, Mr. G. Lee Mikell, Mr. and Mrs. I. Jenkins Mikell, Ms. Connie Padgett, Ms. Sarah K. Padgett, Mr. and Mrs. Carew Rice, Mr. and Mrs. James A. Rice, Mr. and Mrs. Franklin Sams, Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence A. Savage, Dr. and Mrs. Thomas R. Swift, Mr. and Mrs. William F. Thompson, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. H. Wayne Unger, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. H. Robert Woods, III

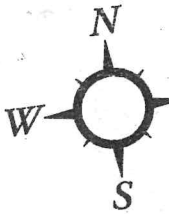
Return Address:

**EDISTO ISLAND OPEN LAND TRUST**

P.O. BOX 1

EDISTO ISLAND, SC 29438

BULK RATE  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**P-A-I-D**  
PERMIT NO. 86  
COLUMBIA, S.C.



Edisto Island  
Open  
Land Trust

# TIDAL TALES

NEWS FROM THE EDISTO ISLAND OPEN LAND TRUST

SUMMER 1995 Issue No. 1

## EIOLT RECEIVES IRS APPROVAL

On November 28, 1994, the Edisto Island Open Land Trust (EIOLT) received IRS approval to operate a tax exempt trust for the purpose of protecting and preserving land on Edisto Island. This was a culmination of many months of hard work by a group headed by Jenks Mikell.

The trust was conceived by concerned Edisto citizens that perceived a need to have a local voice in the future growth of the Island. The stated purpose of the Edisto Island Open Land Trust is to "give leadership in preserving, protecting, and enhancing the natural beauty

and scenic open vistas of Edisto Island, South Carolina".

"Land Trusts are the future of the American Conservation movement" ... "voluntarily conservation efforts led by individual landowners are the key to meaningful land preservation" ... "Land Trusts are uniquely positioned to inform" ... These are but a few of the comments from speakers at the Land Trust Alliance National Rally held in October, 1994. It will be through the efforts of the Edisto Island Open Land Trust that the heritage and lifestyle of Edisto can be preserved.

## HIGHWAY 174 ISLAND TRUST INITIAL PROJECT

"Highway 174 is the first impression as one comes to Edisto and the last memory as one leaves the Island", stated Board Member Sandy Savage. With this thought in mind, the Board of EIOLT adopted as its first project the protection and preservation of the views and vistas along Highway 174.

EIOLT members will talk to the many landowners and shop keepers along the highway, as well as the managers of Edisto Island State Park. The

rural scenic qualities of Highway 174 will change dramatically as the population on the Island continues to grow and the demands for services rise. EIOLT has creative strategies to protect the rural values and accommodate new growth. Many who read this letter will be contacted for their ideas on this project. Should you like to share ideas with the Land Trust, please contact Jenks Mikell, President, EIOLT, P.O. Box 1, Edisto Island, South Carolina 29438.

## TRUST ACCEPTS FIRST GIFT OF LAND

The first gift of land accepted by the Edisto Island Open Land Trust was 300 acres of marsh, land and impoundments at The Neck on Edisto. This generous gift was donated by Mr. David Lybrand.

The Land Trust has also accepted cash gifts, pledges and membership subscriptions providing working capital of approximately \$30,000 according to Ellen Unger, the Land Trust treasurer.

## LETTER FROM I. JENKINS MIKELL, JR. - EIOLT PRESIDENT

*(Note: "Jenks" Mikell is the President and primary force behind the Edisto Island Open Land Trust, at the present time. The Mikell family is one of the most established on Edisto in terms of historical background. As his family's Patriarch, Jenks believed that there must be a way to preserve the unique views, vistas, and heritage of Edisto Island. The result of this belief has become the Edisto Island Open Land Trust.*

*Jenks has concluded that the citizens of Edisto should initiate long range planning instead of having the county bureaucracy take the lead. He asks, "Why should we allow the county to mess up our Island? We are the people who live and work here; let us do the planning. Hopefully, the EIOLT will be the catalyst to make this happen."*

*Jenks and wife Alicia live in Hopkins, S.C. where he is an insurance executive. Most weekends are spent on Edisto hunting and fishing with their children and grandchildren.)*

### Dear Friends of the Edisto Island Open Land Trust,

We are proud to announce the donation last December of a tract of land which is composed of marsh, saltwater impoundments, and an island around "The Neck". This land was donated by David Lybrand of Edisto Sales & Rental Realty and consists of approximately 300 acres. On donating this land, Mr. Lybrand has assured the people of "The Neck" that this land will remain in its natural state and will preserve the views and vistas that they have.

By accepting this piece of property, the trust assumed perpetual responsibility for monitoring this piece of property. The trust is presently in the process of trying to set up a nature trail on some of this property and is also drawing up the management plan. We have already had an assessment done of the saltwater impoundment and have been told that it is healthy and full of widgeon grass which will attract ducks and game fish.

We are also proud to announce that we are implementing a plan of action on Highway 174 on Edisto. We have already composed a computer map of the island which includes all individual Edisto properties. This map is being updated to include historical areas that are presently preserved by the Audubon Society, Ducks Unlimited, Wildlife Department or the Low Country Land Trust Easements.

Through the Edisto Island Open Land Trust and similar organizations, landowners now have easy access to information about conservation easements and other alternatives which will conserve natural values, as well as meet their financial and personal objectives. We stand ready to assist landowners in evaluating and making decisions about their properties in a manner which includes consideration of land conservation objectives.

The Edisto Island Open Land Trust is a qualified charitable organization enabling donors of land and conservation easements to declare charitable deductions for federal income tax purposes. We would welcome the opportunity to talk with you or your neighbors regarding voluntary land conservation. For more information, contact us at the return address on this newsletter.

It would also be remiss of me not to thank a few people who have helped get the Edisto Island Open Land Trust organized and going in the right direction. First, the law firm of Evans, Carter, Kunes and Bennett, P.A. for helping us get our 501C3 tax exempt status; Mrs. Peggy Pepper of Botany Bay Plantation for hosting our organization meeting, and the six founding board members and their spouses, who without their hard work, we would not be where we are.

I look forward to working with you and look forward to a good conservation year on Edisto.

I. Jenkins Mikell, Jr. - President

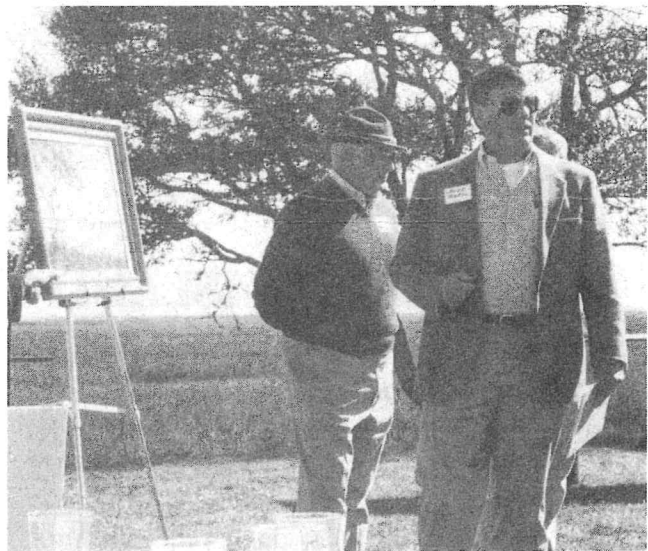
## Land Trust Fall Fund Raising Event

The Edisto Island Open Land Trust will have a fund raising event on the afternoon of Sunday, October 8, 1995. There will be Bar-B-Que and drinks served at the owners boat dock on Beckett Plantation. A donation to the land Trust will be accepted for admission. More information will be forthcoming.

### 85 ATTEND EIOLT KICK-OFF RALLY

Under a beautiful blue sky, a light breeze and breathtaking views from the lawn at Botany Bay Plantation, 85 people attended an Edisto Island Land Trust rally on March 11, 1995. The rally was held to officially announce the formation of the Edisto Island Open Land Trust. Attendees were treated to Bar-B-Que, oysters and cold drinks as Jenks Mikell stated the objective and purpose of the Land Trust. Mr. Mikell also unveiled an oil painting commissioned by the Land Trust, painted by Doug Grier from Greenville, South Carolina, which will serve as the Trust's logo.

Special thanks to Mrs. Peggy Pepper for donating her time and the use of Botany Bay Plantation for this occasion.



*President Jenks Mikell addresses first EIOLT rally at Botany Bay Plantation*

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Edisto Island Land Trust has named the following people to its initial Board of Directors:

- I. Jenkins Mikell - President
- James A. Rice - Vice President
- Ellen Unger - Secretary/Treasurer
- James O. Kempson - Director
- Gordon Locatis - Director
- Sandy Savage - Director
- David Lybrand - Director

### CONSERVATION EASEMENT INFORMATION NOW AVAILABLE

Information on conservation easements and other tax planning issues are available through the Edisto Island Open land Trust. Issues such as land preservation strategies, working with developers on easements and project design as well as other related matters, may be discussed by contacting any EIOLT Board Member.