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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

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NEWS FROM THE EDISTO ISLAND OPEN LAND TRUST

SPRING 1997 Issue No.3

ELIOT'S ANNUAL MEETING A SUCCESS - PLANS IN WORKS FOR 1997'S MEETING

The land trust's annual meeting, hosted by Gayle & Bill Thompson, was held on Saturday, October 19 at Sunnyside Plantation. SCE&G provided beverages to compliment the fried flounder meal that was served. Approximately 150 people gathered to support the land trust. A silent auction was held to bid on everything from a wooden swing to art work to crepe myrtle trees. Proceeds from the auction will be used for the trust's preservation efforts.

Guest speaker Robert Marvin, an award-winning landscape architect/artist spoke about the significance of preserving land. "He told us that the private sector had to be in charge of the future," says EIOLT President I. Jenkins Mikell, Jr. "Politics and politicians can't do what we're trying to do." Marvin encouraged the trust to focus on future preservation efforts as a means of saving what's left of the undeveloped land on Edisto.

Marvin is a graduate of Clemson University and the University of Georgia, both of which have honored him with distinguished alumni awards. He has received 12 national awards, which were presented to him by six of the nation's first ladies. He has also received 32 additional national awards, as well as local and regional awards.

The meeting was a great success. The land trust gained a number of new supporters after the event. Their support will be used to continue the trust's goals of preserving the scenic views and vistas of Edisto Island. Plans are underway for the 1997 meeting. The meeting has been scheduled for a Saturday afternoon in October. More information will be provided as the date approaches.



"EllAYI' members and guests enjoy an afternoon together learning more about the significance of preserving land."

GENEROUS DONATION ADDED TO EIGLT'S PRESERVED VIEWS

In late 1996, the EIOLT received another generous donation of land. Edisto home owner, J. M. "Butch" Pendarvis, donated the property which encompasses the dry land as well as the marsh land at the corner of Crisp Road and Oyster Factory Road. This property is a beautiful scenic vista that will be preserved by the land trust. As with all of the land trust's acquisitions, this land will be cleaned and maintained by the board members and volunteers of the land trust.

EIOLT PURCHASES CLAMP PROPERTY

In order to continue the mission of preserving the scenic views and vistas of Edisto Island, the EIOLT purchased a plot of land from Ted and Heyward Clamp. This 2.5 acres of high land and 9.5 acres of marsh will be added to the land trust's stable of preserved views and vistas. This scenic view is bordered on three sides by marsh and fronts on the west side of Highway 174.

The debt incurred by the land trust for this land will be paid through donations and EIOLT memberships. The land trust will clean the property, place fill dirt in necessary areas and eventually add the property as one of its wildflower sites.

WILDFLOWER PROJECT TO BEAUTIFY SCENIC HWY. 174

Plans are underway to beautify Scenic Highway 174 on Edisto Island. The EIOLT has researched, mapped out and planted four sites under the SCE&G lines. "SCE&G has been working with us on this venture and we're excited about seeing our blooms this spring," said EIOLT President, I. Jenkins Mikell, Jr. Mrs. Gretchen Kinlaw, along with the help of the land trust board, headed up the project of deciding which wildflowers to plant and the best manner in which to do so. The locations chosen to be planted were sprayed to kill the weeds, cleaned of debris and tilled, Once this was complete, the seeds were planted.

The first sites planted are: the area in front of the Edistonian; across from the Super Valu grocery store; Bunt Fisk's farm road front; and just off the Dawhoo Bridge on the right coming onto the island. Several other sites are also being explored for planting after the inaugural year. Anyone interested in volunteering his/her services for this project can contact Jenkins Mikell, President, EIOLT, P.O. Box 1, Edisto Island, SC 29438.

DON'T LET THE LIGHT DIM YOUR VIEW

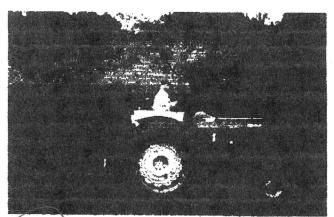
Don't forget that the EIOLT, in partnership with SCE&G, is working on locating street and dock lights that are in need of shading. The Hubbel Reflector is a shade that allows lighting to be reflected downward instead of upward into the sky. If you know of lights that need shading, please contact the EIOLT, P.O. Box 1, Edisto Island, SC, 29438.

EIOLT RECEIVES GRANTS FOR BEAUTIFICATION PROJECT

The land trust received two grants this winter to aid in the Wildflower Project. A \$3,000 grant from SCANA/SCE&G, was applied for and received. The wildflowers have been planted under the power lines. Plans for building bike paths under the power lines are also being discussed.

The second grant was from the town of Edisto Beach. This grant money, carmarked out of the Accommodations Tax, will also assist the land trust in its Wildflower and Highway 174 Beautification Project.

Many thanks to SCANA/SCE&G and the Town of Edisto Beach for their generosity and willingness to assist the land trust on the beautification of Scenic Highway 174.



"EILOT Board Member, Jim Rice, prepares wildflower sites for planting."

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

Let me start this letter with an apology for not being in touch with you before now, but let me assure you that your board worked very hard in 1996 and the fruits of our labor are starting to show.

Our membership did not grow as we had expected but we applied for, and received, in early 1997, two grants; one from the town of Edisto Beach and the other from the SCANA Corporation (South Carolina Electric & Gas). Both of these grants are to help with the Wildflower Project along Scenic Highway 174. We have planted four sites to start our project and are looking forward to spring and summer color. This project is being coordinated by Gretchen Kinlaw and if you would like to help plant, pick up roots, trash or any other thing Gretchen needs done, please write to us at Edisto Island Open Land Trust, P.O. Box 1, Edisto Island, South Carolina, 29438.

Also in 1996 we purchased from Ted and Heyward Clamp a tract of land on Highway 174. This property not only guards one of Edisto's road-side vistas but also contains part of the original causeway to the beach. We will clean this property and I hope whenever you pass by you will remember us and help us pay off our debt with your generous donations.

J.M. "Butch" Pendarvis gave us the property at the corner of Crisp & Oyster Factory Roads. It also guards a very nice vista that will be protected forever by the Edisto Island Open Land Trust. "Butch", we thank you and your family for the donations.

The Land Trust Alliance has asked us to host a tour of Bailey Island as part of their annual meeting this September. The group will be traveling by bus from Savannah on Sunday, September 27th to spend the afternoon touring Bailey Island. Local expert biologists and botanists, including Professor of Biology at the Citadel, Richard D. Porcher, will teach about the natural history of the island. These tours will be walking as well as pontoon boats. The Edisto Island Open Land Trust is proud to host this event in an effort to offer more people the opportunity to see our beautiful area.

As we continue to move forward with our plans

for 1997, we ask for your help. Many of you are receiving this newsletter even though you are not members of the land trust or you have not renewed your membership for 1997. The land trust board asks that you take a minute and become a member. if you are a member from a previous year, we ask that you renew your membership for 1997 at a higher level. Remember, it is your tax deductible donation that allows us to further the land trust's mission to preserve and protect the views and vistas of Edisto Island.

I received the following letter, which speaks volumes about what we are trying to do. We have made an impact at last.

Dear Edisto Island Open Land Trust -

The attached donations are made in memory of Paul Scurry. Paul was only 48 years old He served on the Nashville Metro Police Department. On May 17, 1996 he was killed in the line of duty.

We have searched for an organization which we feel Paul would have supported- we finally found it.

Paul loved Edisto - he planned to visit there for a week during this past summer - as he has done for years. He said Edisto was a piece of heaven, a place to get away from the "criminals". On May 17, he was shot nine times while serving a warrant on a 23 year old. We feel he was at Edisto with us this past summer as we spent the week without him.

Your organization supports what was important in life to Paul and to us - the preservation of this great land God has given us.

We look forward to visiting Edisto within the next couple of months.

Al and Glenda Risinger Saluda, South Carolina

We thank you for your continued support. Sincerely,

1. Jenkins Mikell, Jr.

President, Edisto Island Open Land Trust, Inc.