

Edisto Island Open Land Trust  
P.O. Box 1  
Edisto Island, SC 29438



## We have a Plan and We Mean Business . . .

Edisto Island Open Land Trust (EIOLT) has a Strategic Plan to SAVE Edisto's natural beauty and rural character. **BE A PART OF THE PLAN** and **JOIN THE TEAM** that's going to bat for Edisto's future, and at the same time increase your membership status!

- **JOIN** or **RENEW** your **EIOLT membership** at a higher level
- **GIVE** an additional **donation to EIOLT's Property Fund**
- **SPONSOR** an EIOLT event
- **REMEMBER** loved ones with a memorial gift to the EIOLT
- **SEND** an **EIOLT Gift Membership** for Birthdays and special occasions

IF MONEY IS TIGHT and you're tired of giving it all to the taxman:

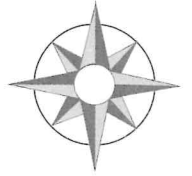
- **GIVE** a **securities donation** - insurance, stocks, etc.
- **DONATE** a **Conservation Easement** on your property to the EIOLT, or
- **DONATE** a **portion** of your property to the EIOLT
- **LEAVE A GIFT** in your **WILL** to preserve Edisto's landscape

Most of your donations to EIOLT are tax-deductible, but most importantly, they will add to the legacy you leave behind. Send your contribution or pledge in the enclosed remittance envelope today and watch protected lands on Edisto grow.

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# Tidal Tales



EDISTO ISLAND OPEN LAND TRUST

... To preserve and protect lands, scenic vistas, heritage, and conservation resources of Edisto Island

SPRING 2007

## Two New Properties Protected By EIOLT

EIOLT is delighted to have been selected as the steward for two properties now protected by conservation easement. Thank to conservation-minded landowners, like Mike Low and Randall Swan, more and more of Edisto's natural landscape is being saved for future generations to enjoy and care for.

### Conservation Easement on Manse Road

As a teenager, Randall Swan came to Edisto Island to go camping. Today he and his family still enjoy the unspoiled woods, creeks and vast stretches of farm fields as well as the rich traditions and history of this wonderful place.

Randall recently decided to do what he could to prevent future clearing of the woods and natural areas on his four-acre Edisto Island tract fronting Store Creek. His donation of a conservation easement on this property, which has one residence tucked into the natural landscape, forever protects the scenic views from Store Creek as well as from Manse Road.



In the Nike commercial, Randall's advice to other landowners considering a conservation easement is, "just do it." He adds "doing what one can to preserve Edisto is worth the effort . . . the Edisto Island Open Land Trust is very helpful (with the easement process)." The EIOLT is honored to assume the responsibility for stewarding this beautiful property.



### Conservation Easements on Russell Creek Road

When asked about what lies ahead for Edisto Island 100 years from now, Michael Low responded with a hopeful vision of Edisto still being a place of great natural beauty. Michael's donation of a conservation easement on 41 acres of his property along Russell Creek Road sets an example for other landowners.

Growing up spending time roaming Edisto's natural and wild spaces led to Michael's love of Edisto and his decision to preserve two contiguous tracts that front Sand Creek. These side-by-side easements protect a very diverse natural habitat — the marsh edge buffers and expansive maritime forests provide a home to migratory and wading birds and other wildlife, as well as to many species of plants.

Michael believes people are starting to realize that Edisto is not only a place but also a way of life. He thinks that the desire to preserve this quality of life for future generations is gaining momentum. Michael's advice to other potential donors is to place a conservation easement on your land now and take advantage of the expanded tax incentives that are scheduled to expire at the end of this year. Donating a conservation easement provides a way to make a difference in Edisto's future, still maintain control over your property and get financial rewards for relinquishing negotiated development rights.

### 2007 is THE Year to Protect Your Land

Never before and quite possibly never again will the economic incentives for land conservation be so beneficial for eligible landowners. The expanded federal income tax incentives for a landowner who donates a conservation easement

**EDISTO ISLAND  
OPEN LAND TRUST**

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**Mission Statement:**

*to preserve and protect lands,  
scenic vistas, heritage, and  
conservation resources of Edisto  
Island and for future generations.*

77 Highway 174, Suite 7  
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Edisto Island, SC 29438

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Email: eiolt@bellsouth.net

Website: www.edisto.org

SPONSOR MEMBER OF THE



## FROM THE DIRECTOR

Have you wondered where the extra 1% you pay in Charleston County Sales Tax goes? We hope it will go right back into Edisto Island's scenic and rural landscape. Charleston County recently announced an opportunity to apply for \$67 Million in funding from the Greenbelt Bank Board to purchase conservation easements on rural lands.

The EIOLT has negotiated the purchase of three conservation easements on adjoining Edisto properties, and we have submitted three applications to the Greenbelt Bank Board for one-half the funds needed. For the other half of the easements purchase cost, we also submitted three requests for funding to the SC Conservation Bank.

These three adjoining properties total almost 400 acres of scenic farmland, woodlands and wetlands that connect to several other already preserved properties in the northwestern quadrant of Edisto Island. These connected lands will provide an uninterrupted habitat of several thousand acres, which support diverse wildlife, including threatened species such as bald eagles, wood storks, and Painted Bunting.

Whatever the funding outcome, a number of people deserve thanks for helping EIOLT staff accomplish the tight deadline for these six funding applications: board members - Sue Thornton, David Lybrand, Lex Crawford, BoBo Lee, Ellen Unger, and Chuck Callahan; volunteers - Pam Jacobs and Jim Brailsford; and two expert volunteers - David Martin of Martin Appraisals & Forestry, Inc., and Matthew Kizer of Edisto Sales & Rentals Realty. Also board member, Nancy Sandel, and volunteer, Lois Anderson, kept the EIOLT Tomato Festival event on track so that the staff could concentrate on land protection. **It really does take a community to preserve a special place!**

## Changes at EIOLT

Sue Hay Thornton was elected to the EIOLT Board of Trustees at the March Board Meeting. Sue and her husband, Adrian Chandler, live in Charleston and spend weekends at their Edisto Beach getaway. Sue's family is from Charleston but she grew up in Rhode Island, graduated from Boston University, and then came back to SC to attend the University of South Carolina School of Law. She practiced law in Charleston for 15+ years, specializing in real estate law. Sue has been actively involved in environmental and community work, including serving on the board of the International Birds of Prey and volunteering with the SC Bar's Heirs Property Project. With the EIOLT's accelerating land protection efforts, Sue experience and knowledge will be indispensable to the Land Trust.

The EIOLT would like to express appreciation to two board members whose terms on the board have expired - William F. Thompson, Jr., and Edward K. Pritchard, III - for their service to the Land Trust. Pat Neumann, has recently left her position as the Land Trust's Land Protection Director, and is currently helping with land protection projects on a consulting basis. Pat's on-going support and expert assistance is greatly appreciated.

## Grants Support EIOLT Land Preservation Work

The Town of Edisto Beach has again approved funding for the Highway 174 Beautification project. Since 1998, the Town of Edisto Beach has provided Accommodations Tax funding to the EIOLT for litter-removal along Highway 174. All these A-Tax funds go to a contractor who annually picks up more than 12 tons of litter. Additional A-Tax funds have recently been approved for EIOLT's Tomato Festival Street Dance on June 30. The EIOLT greatly appreciates the Town of Edisto Beach's support.

The Gaylord and Dorothy Donnelley Foundation has awarded a two-year grant to support the EIOLT's land protection, public education and general operations. The grant provides \$35,000 for 2007 and \$25,000 for 2008. Each year's grant is contingent upon raising matching new membership funds - either from higher levels of support by current members

*Buy Your Tickets TODAY for*  
**Back to Nature Day Outings - Saturday, May 19**

**Members receive \$10  
off ticket prices.**



- **Richard Porcher** "Nature Walks"  
\$45 per person  
Each tour is limited to 40 people

Eddingsville Beach Tour  
9:30 a.m. to 12:00 Noon  
Meet at Enterprise Bank

Sea Island Cotton Plantation Tour  
2:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
Meet at Presbyterian Church

- **Sidney Gauthreaux's**

"Discovering new Feathered Friends"

\$45 per person - Each tour is limited to 8 people  
Morning Tour 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.  
Meet at Legacy Live Oak Memorial Site

Afternoon tour 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Meet at Legacy Live Oak Memorial Site

- **Rowland Alston with Anne Mattox**  
"Gardening on the Coast"

\$30 per person - Workshop is limited to 40 people  
10:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon - Meet at Main's Market

- **Meg Hoyle's** "ACE Basin Boat Tour"

\$50 per person - Tour is limited to 15 people  
10:00 to 12:00 Noon - Meet at Edisto Watersports Dock

- **Lindsay Young** "Dolphin, Birdwatching & Kayaking Tour"

\$30 per person - Tour is limited to 40 people  
10:00 to 12:00 Noon - Meet at Edisto Watersports Dock

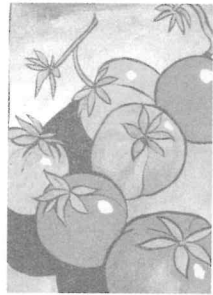
*Thanks to our tour guides who have donated their time, and thanks to our Premier Corporate Sponsor, Edisto Realty, and Hoover Chrysler Jeep, which sponsoring this educational event, ALL TICKET PROCEEDS WILL GO TOWARD PROTECTING THREATENED LANDS ON EDISTO.*

**Tickets will be sold IN ADVANCE ONLY** and mailed or held for pick-up. Reserve your space by sending your check to: "EIOLT" - P. O. Box 1, Edisto Island, SC 29438; OR to charge call 843-869-9004 or come by the EIOLT office.

**Don't Miss - The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual  
Carolina Low Country Tomato Festival**

**Thursday, Friday and Saturday - June 28, 29, and 30**

Join us for this fun filled celebration. The 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Tomato Festival was in June, 1968. Now 39 years later, we are bringing it back ... in true Edislow style.



**Thursday, June 28**

**Kick-Off Party and Live Auction - Edisto Island Yacht Club - 6:30pm**

Tickets are \$35 - for reservations, call the EIOLT OFFICE at 843-869-9004. Tickets are limited and are going fast!!!

**Turn your Treasures into Donations:** Do you have a vacation home that often stands empty during the year? Would you like to host a fishing expedition? Everyone has something of value, be it an item from your business, an hour of your professional services, airline tickets, or antiques. The EIOLT needs donations (tax-deductible) of your items and your time for the Live Auction. Your name will be featured in the Program.

**Friday June 29**

**Tomato Open Golf Tournament-Plantation Course at Edisto - Tee off 9:30am**

The Tomato Open will be held at the Plantation Course on Edisto. The tournament will have a captain's choice format with limited field. The entry fee is \$500.00 per team. In addition to the round of golf and a cart, each player will receive complimentary beverages, lunch, and a gift package. There will be both prizes and surprises during the Tournament, including four "Hole-in-One" contests with valuable prizes such as a new car, golf clubs and more. To register or for more information, please call the Plantation Course at Edisto, 843 869-1111.

**Kid's Summer Fun Park - Edisto Driving Range - 10am to 6pm**

Youngsters of all ages will be delighted to find rides, educational activities and events at the Tomato Festival.

**Tomato Tasting - Main's Market - 3:00 pm**

Enter your favorite tomato dishes—tomato beverages, tomato pies, salsas, and tomato desserts, as well as your prized vine-ripened, homegrown "maters". Applications for either professional or amateur in each category can be picked up at the EIOLT.

**Tomato Queen Contestants Parade 6:30 pm around the beach**

Have you always wanted to wear a crown and wave to the crowds from the back of a convertible? This is your chance. The woman (or man) who collects the most in contributions to the EIOLT will be crowned *Queen of the Tomato Festival* at the Street Dance on Saturday, June 30. If you are interested, apply today at the EIOLT.

**Saturday June 30<sup>th</sup>**

**Youngsters Summer Fun Park - Edisto Driving Range - 10am to 4pm** - Same fun rides and exhibits as on Friday!

**Art Show - Edisto Driving Range - 10am to 4pm** - Artisans and crafts people will strut their stuff, featuring art and unique creations

**Tomato Festival Street Dance - Whaley's - 7pm to 12am** (tickets sold at event) - Music by "The East Coast Band," food vendors, and the crowning of the Tomato Queen. The 1<sup>st</sup> Tomato Queen and Miss Edisto Beach will crown our new Tomato Queen.

# Edisto Realty signs up as Premier Corporate Sponsor

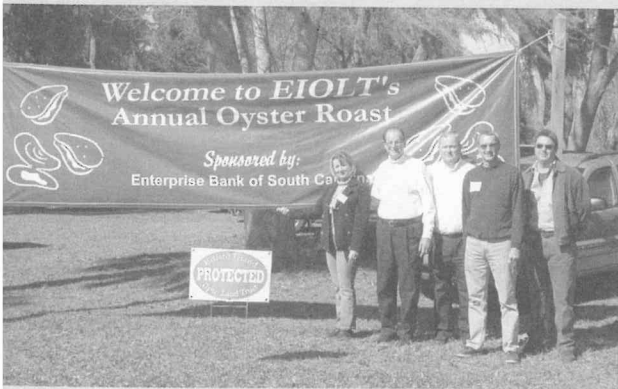


The EIOLT and Edisto Sales & Rentals Realty forged a new partnership when Edisto Realty agreed to step up their commitment as the EIOLT's first *Premier Corporate Sponsor*. For a \$10,000 donation, this sponsorship level makes Edisto Realty the top sponsor for all EIOLT events this year.

Serving Edisto patrons at 1405 Palmetto Blvd. for the last 33 years, Edisto Sales and Rentals Realty has long been a loyal supporter of the Land Trust. When asked why the company supports the EIOLT, Matthew K. Kizer, owner of Edisto Realty said, "My family has lived on Edisto Island since the early 1920s. Having grown up here, I am delighted to support the mission of the EIOLT. It is a privilege to live in this island paradise, and there is no better feeling in the world than the one you get when you cross the Dawhoo Bridge onto Edisto Island. Suddenly everything

seems to be at a slower and more relaxed pace. Edisto Realty looks forward to helping protect that feeling and the scenic vistas for future generations."

Edisto Realty, like other EIOLT business members, recognizes that keeping Edisto natural is not only good for the people who enjoy living close to the land, it's also good for the economy. Tourism is important for the island and vital for protecting the values of property here. The best economic strategy merges with the best legacy we can leave behind — to protect the land and creeks and forests that sustain us and the wildlife around us. Edisto Realty is an excellent model of a business doing its share to preserve Edisto's unrivaled scenic beauty and natural habitat. For more information, contact *Matthew Kizer* at Edisto Sales & Rentals Realty, 1405 Palmetto Blvd. on Edisto Beach - 800-868-5398 Toll free, 843-869-2527 Office, 843-709-4671 Mobile, [bill-matthew@edistorealty.com](mailto:bill-matthew@edistorealty.com), or visit [www.edistorealty.com](http://www.edistorealty.com).



## Oyster Roast a Success

We are convinced that Bill Varn, President of Enterprise Bank of SC, has connections with the ultimate weatherman. For the fourth year in a row Enterprise Bank has sponsored the EIOLT Annual Meeting & Oyster Roast, and each year the weather has been perfect for oyster and fried chicken eating by the creek, sitting on the grass listening to gospel music, socializing with old friends and meeting new friends. This year was no different, except we could have had a kite-flying contest with March breezes gusting up to 20 knots or more.

More than 300 people gathered at Sand Creek Farms on Sunday, March 4, hosted by EIOLT Board member Lex Crawford and his wife, Anne. The crowd was entertained with a gospel singing by the Edisto Presbyterian Church USA's Men's group, "The Temptations." The EIOLT Board of Trustees would like to again thank all those who made this day a success: Enterprise Bank of SC, the Crawfords, the Temptations, Jim Kempson, who donated the beverages, and all the volunteers who worked to make the day a success.

Marian Brailsford, EIOLT Executive Director, gave members an overview of what lies ahead for the Land Trust and for Edisto Island, including the strategic goal to add 20 new protected properties to the EIOLT inventory within the next five years. Marian recognized recent conservation easement donors, Michael Low and Randall Swan, and wrapped up the announcements by introducing the EIOLT's first Premier Corporate Sponsor – Edisto Realty.

## EIOLT Conducts Financial Audit

Edisto Island Open Land Trust's financial statements have recently been audited by the Greene Finney Horton, LLP Certified

# Scenic 174 Corridor Management Plan Update

The Scenic 174 Coalition is beginning work on the draft of the Corridor Management Plan for Highway 174, based on the research done by community members. Here are examples of 350 photos were taken by 29 participants who recorded their commer



**PROTECT** "Edisto's roadside markets are an important part of the sense of place and provide important support to local farmers."



**PROTECT** "Shrimp boat represents an island way of life and our views of the marsh are unparalleled."



**FIX** "In various areas of 174 the speed limit should be lowered."

Here is a brief summary of the community's desires for the Corridor's future:

**Protect** - local family vendors and markets, our ancient trees and live oak canopy, the quirkiness of the island, our wildlife habitat and farmlands, the natural and scenic views, and our historic churches and structures.

**Prevent** - dock proliferation and inappropriate commercial structures.

**Promote** - keeping the road two lanes, natural buffer screening along the edges of road, bike paths, and more sites for islanders to display and sell art, crafts vegetables and seafood, and balanced growth and preservation.

**Fix** - signs pollution, litter, speed limits that are too high, highway design flaws, rundown structures, and make safer fishing and crabbing access to creeks.

If you would like to read a detailed report of the community's photo data analysis and the community questionnaire summary, please email [eiolt@bellsouth.net](mailto:eiolt@bellsouth.net).

## Painted Bunting Project

The EIOLT has embarked on an educational project to increase awareness about the threat to one of our most beautiful native birds – the Painted Bunting. If you have seen a brilliant flash of red, blue and yellow in the treetops, then you have witnessed the male bunting with the most distinctive coloring of any songbird in North America.

The Painted Bunting, which lives and breeds in the coastal regions of South Carolina, N.C., Georgia and Florida, is experiencing a steep decline in population (approximately a 60% loss over the last 40 years) that many attribute to the loss of habitat caused by expanding coastal development. That's where the EIOLT's efforts to preserve Edisto's woods, fields and marshes comes in. Concerned scientists from four states have formed the "Painted Bunting Working Group," and they are establishing habitat sites to promote breeding of the bunting.

With the help of the teaching staff at Jane Edwards and Edisto Beach Schools, the EIOLT is involving local school children in the effort to stop the decline in the Painted Bunting population. Learning activities for the children include making their own birdfeeders, for which the Land Trust will supply millet seed, the bunting's favorite food. On April 20 Lex Glover of the SC Department of Natural Resources will make a presentation at each of the Edisto schools about the plight of this bird, what the state is doing and how the children can help. Artist Bonnie Lee's painting of the bunting will be printed on T-shirts and given to each of the schoolchildren at the end of DNR's presentations. The T-shirts have been donated by board member Kathy Ravenel of Ravenel and Associates,) to give each child a "memory" for a lifetime.



From Left- Christy Thompson, Principal, Kat Ravenel, Trustee, and Bonnie Lee, artist.

## Litter Trashes Everyone

On February 6, Edisto Pride once again sponsored the puppet show, "Litter Trashes Everyone," and 153 students from Jane Edwards and Edisto Beach Elementary attended. The Columbia Marionette Theatre used marionettes and hand puppets to convey the message that every citizen of any age has a responsibility to help keep our island and South Carolina litter-free. Each of the schoolchildren made a commitment to pick up at least one piece of trash every day to help keep the island litter-free.



Left - Christy Thompson, Principal of Jane Edwards

Edisto Pride sponsors two annual anti-litter campaigns: On March 24 volunteers picked up 3,000 pounds of litter on many of Edisto's side roads. and on September 25, 2007 Edisto Pride will

**BLUE HERON \$2,500 - \$4,999**  
**DAWHOO \$1,000 - \$2,499**  
**INDIGO \$500 - \$999**  
**DOLPHIN \$250 - \$499**  
**OSPREY \$100 - \$249**  
**PELICAN \$50 - \$99**

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