

## 2013 Annual Report



*531 acres of Charles Stripling's family farm in Mitchell County are now protected*

In **2013**, Athens Land Trust strengthened its offerings with the opening of the West Broad Farmers Market and the commencement of the Young Urban Farmer Program. ALT also became involved in the local Farm to School Program, purchased the 5-acre Williams Farm and a 2.2-acre tract on Ruth Street, secured nine new homeowners, and protected more than 3,000 acres of important greenspace throughout Georgia. ALT's three programs of Land Conservation, Affordable Housing and Community Agriculture connect people to land in ways that promote clean air and water, protect farmland, create affordable housing, provide healthy food and increase their economic opportunities.

**During 2013**, ALT worked with landowners of 11 properties to protect 3,405 acres throughout Georgia, for a total of 11,528 acres protected by ALT. The new protected properties include some very unique features such as blue springs along the Flint River, blackwater swamps, longleaf pine, river dunes, habitat for endangered species, a Civil War site, granite outcrops, prime farmland and an urban tract.

*continued on page 2*

**ALT's** Community Agriculture Program grew extensively in 2013. The West Broad Farmers Market opened at the West Broad Market Garden, ALT received funding for Farm to School, and purchased a 5-acre farm. *continued on page 4*



**ALT's** Affordable Housing Program had a record year with nine families becoming first-time homebuyers. ALT also acquired several new properties for future housing, continued building the Cottages at Cannontown and provided additional homebuyer education classes for the community. *continued on page 6*

# Land Conservation



*227 Acres in Morgan County are protected*

**ALT's Land Conservation Program** worked with the landowners of 11 properties to protect 3,405 acres throughout Georgia before the end of 2013. The properties were diverse in size, location, land use, and habitat. ALT partnered with the Natural Resource Conservation Service and Oconee County to purchase an agricultural conservation easement on 42 acres belonging to William and Kathy Shelnutt, who are the fifth generation to own and operate the farm. The Trust for Public Land, the National Park Service's American Battlefield Program, the Department of Natural Resources, and the Georgia Piedmont Land Trust all worked together to protect 133 acres of a Civil War battlefield at Lost Mountain in Cobb County that will be open to the public. ALT also worked with a landowner to protect 51.5 acres along the Middle Oconee River in Athens and with other landowners to protect longleaf pine areas that are habitat for the endangered gopher tortoise and the blue indigo snake.

## ALT's Conservation Easements Totaling 11,528 Acres

**Bear Creek:** 243 acres of natural forest, wetlands, and streams near Bear Creek Reservoir in Athens-Clarke and Jackson Counties

**Bibb County:** 45 acres of forest and streams near downtown Macon

**Boulevard:** A small, urban, forested property that maintains neighborhood greenspace in Athens-Clarke County

**Bowden Park:** 17 acres of hardwoods and old fields in Athens-Clarke County

**Brent Dooly:** 326 acres of natural forest and prime farmland in Dooly County

**Bronikowski:** 125 acres of pasture and forest in Stephens County

**Bryant:** 59 acres of farmland, forest, and a pond in Oconee County

**Burdett:** 167 acres of forest land with an historic site in Wilkes County

**Chase Street:** 49 acres of forest, pasture and streams that flow into the North Oconee River in Athens-Clarke County

**Five Acre Woods:** Five acres of forest and neighborhood trails off North Avenue in Athens-Clarke County

**Foxhall Farms:** 11 acres of forest land in the Foxhall Farms neighborhood in Athens-Clarke County

**Green:** 2,384 acres of forest along the Ocmulgee River, adjacent to the Piedmont National Wildlife Refuge in Jones County protected by two easements

**Hatmaker:** 29 acres of steep slopes and bottomland forest in southeast Athens-Clarke County

**Hiawasse:** 111 acres of forest in Towns County adjacent to Chattahoochee National Forest

**Hillsman Farm:** 30 acres of a working cattle farm in Oconee County

**Hinton:** 108 acres of natural forest in Spalding and Henry Counties on the Towaliga River

**House Farm:** 92 acres of farmland and pasture near Bishop in Oconee County protected by two easements

**Jordan:** 13 acres of property along the North Oconee River in Athens-Clarke County

**Kenney Ridge:** Three easements protecting 39 acres of hardwoods and fields in Athens-Clarke County

**Langdale Farm:** 64 acres of farmland with a small pond in Athens-Clarke County

**Lexington Lake:** 51.5 acres with oak-hickory sloped forest, a lake, and frontage along the Middle Oconee River in Athens-Clarke County

**Lightwood Properties:** Two easements protecting 741 and 603 acres of forest and wetlands in Jones County adjacent to other protected land

**Longleaf Preserve:** 814 acres of timberland, hardwood forest, and streams in Meriwether County

**Lost Mountain:** 152 acres of mature hardwood forest that are part of a Civil War battlefield site in Cobb County protected by two easements

**Martin:** 48 acres of hardwood forest adjacent to the Chattahoochee National Forest in Fannin County

**McLeod:** 474 acres of prime farmland with natural forest and streams in Wilcox County

**McLeod Farms:** 290 acres of forest, streams, prime farmland, and riparian habitat in Sumter County

**Meriwether:** 854 acres of forest, streams and granite outcrops

**Milford Hills:** 23 acres of oak-hickory forest and creeks in Athens-Clarke County

**Mitchell Farm:** 188 acres of cattle and hay farm near Farmington in Oconee County

**Mt. Burton:** 110 acres of woods adjacent to the Chattahoochee National Forest in Habersham County

**Odum:** 1,050 acres of longleaf pine, black-water streams, and wetlands that are habitat for the gopher tortoise in Crisp County

**Pharr:** 227 acres of oak-hickory forest, timber, and streams in Morgan County

**Pinecrest:** 30 acres of hardwoods and pines in the Pinecrest neighborhood in Athens-Clarke County

**Powers-Breedlove Farm:** Two easements protecting 133 acres of farmland in Oconee County

**Quail Preserve:** 199 acres of forest and wetlands with black-water cypress swamps along the Little Ogeechee River in Effingham County

**Rattlesnake Ranch:** 257 acres of hardwood forest, the historic "Balance Rock," granite outcrops, and frontage on Hard Labor Creek in Morgan County

**Shelnutt Farm:** 42 acres of a working farm in Oconee County

**Sheth:** 31.5 acres of hardwoods, creek, wetlands, and Burton Lake frontage in Barrow County

**Sheth-Carnesville:** 64 acre oak-hickory forest, fields, and wetlands in Franklin County

**Stangle:** 18 acres of mature oak-hickory forest that are part of 600 acres of protected land along the Middle Oconee River in Athens-Clarke County

**Stephens:** 124 acres of farm and forest land along the Toccoa River

**Stripling:** 531 acres that includes a historic farmstead, habitat for the endangered gopher tortoise and blue indigo snake, bluffs, and blue springs along the Flint River in Mitchell County

**Tallassie:** Two easements protecting 232 acres of mature hardwoods, hollies, and streams along the Middle Oconee River in Athens-Clarke County

**Turkey Bluff:** 502 acres of longleaf pine habitat for gopher tortoise, oak-hickory forest, agricultural land, and blackwater swamps with cypress trees in Screven County

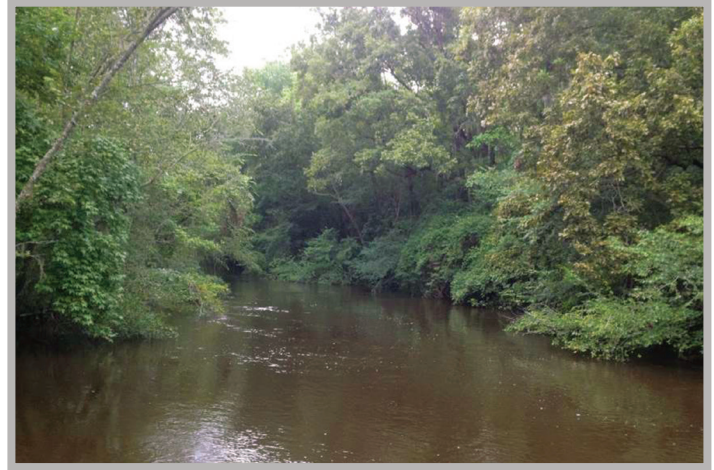
**Wiley Farm:** Two easements protecting a 168-acre working family farm in Walton County

**York:** 36 acres of mature hardwood forest and streams in Oconee County

# Land Conservation

## Tallassee Celebration

Landowner Taylor Glover and the Riverview Foundation were honored for their roles in the conservation of the Tallassee Forest, 542 acres of beautiful and ecologically important land along the Middle Oconee River, at a celebration hosted by ALT on April 26. ALT worked with the honorees, Athens-Clarke County, and The Conservation Fund to facilitate the protection of the tract. A portion of the property, 232 acres, was purchased by an individual and is protected with a conservation easement donated by Mr. Glover and held by ALT. Many thanks to the Lyndon House Arts Center for hosting the event and to Big City Bread for donating refreshments.



*502 acres of blackwater swamps and gopher tortoise habitat are protected in Screven County*

## Other Land Conservation Activities

ALT assisted in the protection of three acres of land along the Middle Oconee River. The property is adjacent to land already acquired by the Athens-Clarke County Greenspace Program. ALT also helped landowners, John and Edna Garst, protect a building lot they owned that has large trees and wildlife habitat. The Garsts donated the lot to ALT, and we placed a deed restriction limiting development of the property. The tract is now combined with a neighboring lot and still provides habitat for hawks, owls, and other wildlife. Thank you John and Edna!

ALT staff Laura Hall & Dyan Holt attended the National Land Trust Alliance Rally in New Orleans during September. Laura Hall and Heather Benham attended a conservation easement workshop sponsored by Madison-Morgan Conservancy.

## Upcountry Oyster Roast

ALT hosted the second annual Upcountry Oyster Roast at the Portico in Walton County on April 7. The event celebrated collaborations between landowners and ALT that protected more than 5,000 acres across 10 counties in Georgia during the previous year. Charlie Phillips from Sapelo Sea farms brought fresh oysters from the Georgia coast. The conservation work we do upstream directly impacts the health of the coast and breeding grounds for oysters. ALT works with its landowners to promote healthy ecosystems throughout the state that are vital for the continued production of oysters, shrimp, and other seafoods along the Georgia coast.

## Riverview Foundation Supports Boulevard Woods

Boulevard Woods is a community-driven effort to create a distinctive neighborhood park on a long-vacant lot owned by Athens-Clarke County. The Boulevard Neighborhood Association has been leading the effort to create the park at the junction of Boulevard and Barber Street since 2009. In May, the Riverview Foundation provided a \$75,000 grant for construction of park amenities. The Riverview Foundation supports land conservation in our region and recently provided funding for the purchase of 100 acres of the Tallassee tract for public greenspace. ALT is supporting the Boulevard Neighborhood Association by accepting donations toward the completion of Boulevard Woods. For more details on the project visit their new website [www.boulevardwoods.org](http://www.boulevardwoods.org).

*During 2013, ALT held conservation easements protecting the most acreage of the four Georgia-based accredited land trusts.*



# Community Agriculture

## West Broad Farmers Market

On May 4, the West Broad Farmers Market opened to the public and was held on the first Saturday of each month from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. through December. The Market also hosted a smaller produce stand every Tuesday afternoon from 4 p.m.-6 p.m. Twenty-three vendors participated, including farmers with fresh produce, artisans, bakers, and makers of many different prepared foods. The Market also hosted cooking demonstrations, health screenings, educational programs, live music and children's activities, including a "Next Top Chef" competition where children made healthy snacks and competed to win bicycles donated by Bike Athens.

Each month's market featured cooking demonstrations by local chefs. Athens Regional Medical Center and St. Mary's Hospital offered various health workshops along with individual consultations. In addition, a series of sustainable agriculture workshops were held each month on topics such as beekeeping, integrated pest management, composting, and water conservation.

## Athens Heritage and Urban Agriculture Festival

In November, the West Broad Farmers Market hosted the Athens Heritage and Urban Agriculture Festival, which paid homage to Athens' African-American heritage with special emphasis on the West Broad School. In 1904, Principal Samuel Harris started an agriculture program at the school so that students could grow food for their families and adults could attend evening classes. The Festival was held in collaboration with the Athens High and Industrial/Burney-Harris High School Heritage Committee and the Athens Area Black History Committee. Many former students of the West Broad School gathered and were acknowledged for their service to the community.

## Community Composting Program

The West Broad Market Garden is also hosting a program to make compost from food waste of neighborhood residents and local restaurants. ALT received an Environmental Justice Grant from EPA to support this program as well as environmental education for youth from the Boys and Girls Club.

## Vendor Development Training

With funding from Athens-Clarke County's Department of Housing and Community Development, ALT provided an eight-week training course for people who want to start or develop their own business, including the vendors at the West Broad Farmers Market. Thanks to Dr. Richard McCline of UGA, volunteers from UGA Terry College of Business, Peach State Federal Credit Union and Cooperative Extension.

## Community Supported Agriculture Program

During 2013, the West Broad Market Garden grew food for a group of people who paid up-front for a weekly share of the harvest. Many participants paid extra so that ALT could sell produce at half price for low-income residents.



*Williams Farm Groundbreaking*

## ALT's New Williams Farm

On August 22, ALT celebrated the purchase of the five-acre Williams Farm on Ruth Street, the site of our future agriculture education and production center. For several generations, the Williams family has kept the land in agricultural use, and we are grateful for their support of ALT's preservation of the land as a farm. The property is adjacent to the Five Acre Woods, an Athens-Clarke County-owned urban forest where ALT holds a conservation easement. ALT has had a vision of preserving the farm for many years. The acquisition is a huge landmark for ALT, and we are excited about the numerous possibilities for the farm as a way to grow healthy food, teach sustainable agriculture, and provide jobs for neighborhood residents.

# Community Agriculture

## Young Urban Farmer Program

The inaugural class of ALT's Young Urban Farmer Program began on March 5, with 12 students from Classic City High School. The program offers classroom-based learning and experiential activities in entrepreneurship based at the West Broad Market Garden. The program is supported by a grant from the Turner Family Foundation and funds from the Clarke County School District. Students in the Young Urban Farmer Program developed a business plan for their own products, assisted with the West Broad Farmers Market and Market Garden micro-enterprises such as beekeeping, mushroom cultivation, floriculture, and vermi-composting.

## Farm to School Program

Thanks to a USDA grant of \$99,700, ALT and our partners, Clarke County School District, Keep Athens-Clarke County Beautiful, Clarke County Cooperative Extension, and UGA, we will be engaging children in growing food in school gardens and purchasing fresh produce from local farmers. The grant is for a two-year period.

## Community and School Garden Network

During 2013, the Community Garden Network and the School Garden Committee worked hard to establish and maintain over 35 gardens. Keep Athens-Clarke County Beautiful's Green School Program held volunteer workdays and provided resources to more than 21 school gardens, and ALT staff supported community gardens with volunteers and supplies.

### Community Gardens

*AIDS Athens Care Garden • Our Daily Bread  
Athens Homeless Shelter • Athena Gardens • Athens Land Trust office  
• Fourth Street Village • Athens Community Council on Aging  
Hill Chapel Baptist Church Community Garden  
Pinewoods Mobile Home Park • Riverwood Apartments  
Evergreen Community Garden • Brooklyn Community Garden*

## Good Roots Program with Multiple Choices

ALT is assisting the local, nonprofit agency, Multiple Choices for Independent Living, with their Good Roots Program, where people with disabilities are growing seedlings for sale to supplement their income.



*Nina Kelly conducts "Next Top Chef" activity at the West Broad Farmers Market*

## Farmer Outreach Program

ALT received a grant of \$46,200 from the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) to conduct outreach to underserved farmers in the 10-county region. Farmer outreach workshops were held in Danielsville, Greensboro, Jefferson, Elberton, and Lexington. The goals of the program are to increase the participation of underserved farmers in NRCS programs by demonstrating how the programs can enhance farm operations and economic viability, addressing barriers to eligibility, and providing training in business development for farmers. ALT is also providing incubation opportunities for new farmers in partnership with UGarden and the West Broad Market Garden. Many thanks to NRCS staff for their support and to the local Cooperative Extension agents.

## Sustainable Agriculture Conference

In October 2013, ALT and the Clarke County Cooperative Extension Service hosted a conference for new and beginning farmers who are interested in sustainable farming practices. The conference provided information on services and programs of NRCS and other USDA agencies, Georgia Organics, Cooperative Extension Service, UGA, and Georgia Department of Agriculture. More than 75 people attended the conference, which was supported by Clarke County Cooperative Extension, Oconee County Cooperative Extension, NRCS, and Team Agriculture Georgia.

# Affordable Housing

## Fourteen New Homes

ALT completed the construction of two EarthCraft homes at 300 and 310 Old Winterville Road. The homes were built by Chesser-Kennedy. Chris Evans of e+e Architecture donated his time to design 300 Old Winterville. Both of the homes are three-bedroom and wheelchair-accessible (universal design). ALT also constructed three EarthCraft homes at 868, 870, and 872 Waddell, where dilapidated houses once stood. ALT held an Open House on June 27 so that neighbors and supporters could see the homes. The houses were designed by Paul Cassily to fit the narrow infill lots and were built by JOMA Construction.

During 2013, the first three homes at Cottages at Cannontown were completed, with three additional homes underway. The homes were constructed by Chesser-Kennedy with the winning designs from our recent contest. The house designed by Lori Bork is our first 4-bedroom, 2-story home. The home on Lot 3 is a design that was revised to suit the lot from several homes previously built. Its 3 BR, 2 BA open floor plan has been popular with homeowners. The home on Lot 2 was designed by Will Townes and has a plan that is ADA-compliant. Its shed roof lends itself well to a solar water heater, which has been donated. All three homes are universal design so that residents can live there as they age and are visitable for people with disabilities.

ALT also purchased five recently-constructed 3- and 4-bedroom houses on Bray Street, just outside of our Cottages at Cannontown neighborhood. The former student homes had been foreclosed on and were sold to ALT by First American Bank. In addition, ALT purchased a home and 2.1 acres on Ruth Street where we plan to build additional housing. This tract is across the street from the Williams Farm.



*Three new EarthCraft homes on Waddell Street*



*The first phase of Cottages at Cannontown under construction*

## Homebuyer Education and Housing Counseling

ALT is a HUD-approved Housing Counseling Agency. With the financial support of the partners mentioned on page 7, ALT provided seven Homebuyer Education workshops during 2013 that served 69 individuals. The eight-hour workshops were held in January, March, May, July, August, October and November, and were led by Mary O'Toole, with local realtors, bankers, and attorneys as featured speakers. These local professionals who donated their time were realtors Shavon Echols and Heather McElroy; bankers Mike Paulk, Billy Leopold, and Jeff Bishop; and attorneys Laurie Lunsford, Molly Talley, John Laster, Alec Hodson, and Sarah Morang. In addition to the workshops, Ms. O'Toole provided individual counseling for a total of 106 services. We greatly appreciate the dedication of Ms. O'Toole and the professionals who donated their time and expertise.

# Affordable Housing

## Housing Funding

ALT received an allocation of \$137,115 in Community Development Block Grant funding from Athens-Clarke County Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2013. In addition, HCD allocated \$20,000 for Down Payment Assistance, and \$394,480 of HOME funds for the construction of Cannontown Phase 1. ALT received a grant of \$8,850 from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to provide housing counseling. ALT also received a grant of \$3,000 from Oconee State Bank, which has supported homebuyer education for the past seven years; a grant of \$3,250 from Wells Fargo Foundation which has awarded previous grants to ALT; \$2,500 from the Briscoe Foundation to support energy efficiency; and a grant of \$1,500 from Bank of America. Thank you all for your support of affordable housing.

## New Homeowners



*Mayor Nancy Denson and Commissioners Harry Sims and Kathy Hoard congratulate new homeowner Vitina McKinney*

ALT would like to congratulate several families who have become homeowners in 2013! Vitina McKinney is the new homeowner of an EarthCraft home built by ALT at 300 Old Winterville Road. Tymica Bryant purchased 110 Stanelle Drive after it was renovated by ALT. Jennifer Yearby is the new homeowner of 125 Stanelle Drive and Rosetta Kelley closed on her new EarthCraft home at 140 Stanelle. Marquita Richardson is the new homeowner of 390 Washington Drive. ALT completed three new EarthCraft homes at 868, 870 and 872 Waddell Street. Jill Carnes is the new owner of 870 Waddell and Robert Cucchiaro purchased 868 Waddell. The first three Cottages at Cannontown were also completed in 2013, and Dain Marx and Hannah Hay are the new owners of 125 Cannon Drive. Kirrena Gallagher closed on her new home at 325 Bray Street.

## List of Affordable Properties

- 130 Andrea Dr.
- 170 Andrea Dr.
- 255 Bray St.
- 305 Bray St.
- 325 Bray St.
- 335 Bray St.
- 196 Cabin Lane
- 215 Colima Ave.
- 219 Colima Ave.
- 15 lots in Cottages at Cannontown
- 124 Dallas St.
- 51 Dublin St.
- 130 Erwin Court
- 289 Evans St.
- 239 Field Ave.
- 635 Fourth St.
- 640 W. Hancock Ave.
- 470 Nellie B Ave.
- 474 Nellie B Ave.
- 300 Old Winterville Rd.
- 310 Old Winterville Rd.
- 235 N. Rocksprings
- 245 N. Rocksprings
- 482 Ruth St.
- 104 Simmons St.
- 110 Stanelle Dr.
- 125 Stanelle Dr.
- 140 Stanelle Dr.
- 158 Susan Circle
- 213 Tara Way
- 115 Three Oaks Dr.
- 155 Valleybrook Dr.
- 315 Washington Dr.
- 390 Washington Dr.
- 816 Waddell St.
- 820 Waddell St.
- 853 Waddell St.
- 861 Waddell St.
- 865 Waddell St.
- 868 Waddell St.
- 870 Waddell St.
- 872 Waddell St.
- 879 Waddell St.
- 883 Waddell St.
- 120 mixed-income apartments at Fourth Street Village

*Funding made available for these affordable housing projects by Athens-Clarke County Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) HOME and CDBG Programs of the Unified Government of Athens-Clarke County, an Equal Opportunity Employer.*





*Volunteers at West Broad Garden on Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day*

### **MLK Day of Service**

The West Broad Market Garden hosted a Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service where 29 community volunteers built two 4'x20' raised beds, covered the hoop house with plastic, and cleared weeds from fields to the tunes of 70's-era music legends. ALT staffers Fenwick Broyard and Dana Blanton led the volunteers. A second service site was at Hill Chapel Baptist Church where volunteers from Zeta Phi Beta and Hill Chapel worked on establishing trails for urban children on property owned by the church. Hill Chapel touches the lives of neighborhood children through their community garden and environmental education programs. Laura Hall, ALT's Conservation Director, led the group and a grant from Toys R Us funded materials.

The **2013 Annual Meeting** featured a tour of several of ALT's projects in the Athens area. ALT showed members the Williams Farm, where volunteers were clearing brush and construction on a greenhouse was underway. Three new EarthCraft homes in ALT's subdivision, the Cottages at Cannontown, were toured, followed by Fourth Street Village. Members then visited the West Broad Market Garden to see fall planting and meet participants in the Young Urban Farmer Program. Finally, members toured a portion of the 232-acre Tallassee tract that is protected by a conservation easement.

The **Double Dollar Fundraiser** held at The National on May 4 was a delightful evening featuring a five-course wine-paired dinner prepared by Chef Peter Dale. Several items on the menu were grown at the West Broad Market Garden. The proceeds from the dinner are being used at the West Broad Farmers Market to double the value of Food Stamp dollars for customers. Many thanks to Peter Dale for his commitment to ALT's Community Agriculture Program.

### **ALT Greenfest Awards and Events**

**Carrol and Virginia Beavers** were recognized in 2013 as ALT's Conservation Easement Donors of the Year for their protection of 49 acres in Athens-Clarke County.

ALT's Volunteers of the Year were **Helen Kuykendall and Shannon Mikus**. Helen volunteered more than 90 hours with the Junior Master Gardener Program at Pinewoods Mobile Home Park and Shannon interned with ALT for three months, offering his expertise in landscape architecture to the Land Conservation and Community Agriculture programs.

**Athena Gardens** was chosen as the Community Garden of the Year. Athena Gardens is a senior residential community where residents and staff work together to care for their garden. Vegetables from the garden are regularly enjoyed in meals prepared in the facility's kitchen.

ALT Board Member and University of Georgia College of Environment and Design Associate Professor **Alfie Vick** received the Outstanding Faculty Award from the UGA Office of Sustainability.

The 2013 Alec Little Awards recognized the community garden movement in Athens, and acknowledged **David Berle and the Hill First Baptist garden team**. Berle, a UGA Horticulture professor, has been instrumental in establishing school and community gardens. Each year his students provide hundreds of volunteer hours through service learning activities. The Hill First Baptist Garden team worked to transform a kudzu- and litter-choked ravine adjacent to the Pope Street church into a bountiful garden that has become a neighborhood showpiece.

## Board, Staff and Interns

During 2013, ALT's Board of Directors included President Angela Johnson, Vice-President Lara Mathes, Secretary Gregg Bayard, and Treasurer Alfie Vick. Returning Board members included Gloria Bizzle, Beth Gavrilles, Jared Harper, Elizabeth Jones, Brant Rackley, Rob Robinson, Donna Thurman, and Dev Weeks. At the end of 2013, DelReey Faison joined the Board to fill the seat of Rob Robinson. We are very grateful for the service of these dedicated Board members.

Several staff changes included Nancy Stangle becoming Emerita Director, focusing on resource development, as she nears her retirement in 2014. Heather Benham was appointed as ALT's Director of Operations to manage day-to-day activities and programs. Fenwick Broyard served as Community Agriculture Program Manager and Young Urban Farmer Program Coordinator before leaving in May. Dana Blanton was West Broad Farm Manager through September. Shavon Echols was hired as Homeownership Coordinator, Christina Hylton became the Community Agriculture Program Director, Bantu Gross was the new Young Urban Farmer Program Coordinator, and Gregoryian Willocks became the Williams Farm Manager. Other continuing staff included Laura Hall as Conservation Director, Nathan Shannon as Office and Asset Manager, Dyan Holt as Conservation Coordinator, Mary O'Toole as Housing Counselor, Lynda Stipe as Design Coordinator, Stephanie Bergamo as Garden Assistant, and Lauren Stubbs as Outreach Coordinator.



*Community Garden of the Year Award was presented to Athena Gardens*

ALT was fortunate to have several outstanding interns during 2013. Assisting with the Community Agriculture Program were Colleen Dudley, a junior at the University of North Georgia; Tyra Gross, a doctoral student in Health Promotion at UGA; Molly Canfield, a Master's student in the Department of Geography; Evamarie Siegal, an undergraduate student in the UGA Geography Department; Laura Bimson, a graduate student in the College of Agriculture at UGA; and Lauren Valencic who is studying for a Master's Degree in Public Health with a concentration in Health Promotion and Behavior. Jack Matthews, a student in the College of Environment and Design, assisted the Conservation Program and worked on the Williams Farm concept plan. Other invaluable interns included Andrew Kowalski, a senior at UGA majoring in Business Administration and Management; Ramya Ramaraju who is majoring in Management Information Systems at UGA; Teresa Saker, a graphic design and fine arts major; and Trent Quan, in the Master's in Fine Arts interior design program at UGA, helped with the designs and specifications of our affordable houses. Mahdi Abdur-Rahman is a UGA law student who assisted with the revitalization plan for the Waddell neighborhood as part of UGA's Community Economic Development Clinic. Other law student interns included Grant Bailey, who assisted with research and monitoring of protected properties, and Warren Abel, who helped with a wide variety of tasks. Kellan Lyman volunteered with assorted conservation projects. Michael Peacock, a UGA horticulture student with a background in corporate law, provided help to ALT on food policy issues. Jessica Reichard assisted with the Young Urban Farmer Program, utilizing her years of experience as a youth group facilitator and program developer. Chris Morphis, a student of the College of Environment and Design, helped with the master planning of the Chase Street Farm.

ALT is grateful to have pro bono legal counsel from Kevin Thomas and his colleagues from the law firm Sutherland. We also appreciate the work of the UGA School of Law's Community Development Clinic led by Jared Bybee.



*Carrol and Virginia Beavers received the Conservation Easement Donor of the Year.*



*Helen Kuykendall, left, received the Volunteer of the Year Award from ALT Vice President Lara Mathes*

## Harvest Moon Dinner

The sixth annual Harvest Moon Dinner to benefit Athens Land Trust was held on Saturday, October 19, 2013. The Harvest Moon Dinner was created as an intimate dinner among friends celebrating the landscapes of our community with great food and wine. This year's event featured Chef Peter Dale of The National on the farm of Russell and Sarah Bennett in Walton County. Russell and Sarah are long-time supporters of ALT and we greatly appreciate their hosting the event on their 110-acre farm where they raise grass-fed beef and pastured hens. Thanks to the generous sponsors and attendees listed below and to the hard work of organizers Tony Eubanks and Lara Mathes, the event raised over \$11,000.



### Sponsors:

Athens First Bank and Trust  
Athens Regional Medical Center  
Aurum Studios  
Bertis & Katherine Downs  
Carson Advisory, Inc.

### Attendees:

Valerie Aldridge  
Athena Real Estate  
Gregg Bayard and Maggie Kiley  
Amanda Bernt

Maureen Buhr  
Marie and Daniel DeVartanian  
Direct Market Realty  
Judson Doherty  
Bertis and Katherine Downs  
Cassandra Drennon  
Jack and Kathryn Edmunds  
Elena Brown and Jared Harper  
Jim Gillis  
H&S Group  
Charles and Julia Hill  
Homeplace  
Davis and Genevieve Knox

Koons Enviromental Design  
John Lyndon  
Eric and Jessica Orbock  
Parker Property & Appraisals  
Julie Roth  
Lee and Linda Schramm  
Tom and Lori Scott  
Ken Sherman  
Synovus  
Kate VanCantfort  
Dev and Gene Weeks  
Whitworth Land Corporation

## Riding for a Reason



ALT's 3rd Annual Riding for a Reason on May 18 featured a metric century (62 miles) loop from Bishop to Dale and Lisa Wiley's farm in Jersey and back. About 40 cyclists enjoyed the beautiful ride to the 168-acre Walton County farm which is protected by a permanent agricultural conservation easement held by ALT. The event raised close to \$1,800 for ALT. Many thanks to the Wileys for hosting the riders, Poplar Springs Baptist Church for providing lunch, Ken Sherman for organizing the ride, and our generous sponsors: Jeff Bishop, Dynamite Clothing, Full Circle Real Estate Group, Chris Nichols, Alex and Janet Patterson, Dayne Shannon and Walton EMC Natural Gas.

*Athens Land Trust is a private, non-profit 501(c)(3) organization whose mission is to promote the quality of life through the integration of community and the natural environment by preserving land, creating energy-efficient and affordable housing and revitalizing neighborhoods.*

# Thank you to our members, partners, and donors for your support in 2013!

## Partners

Athens-Clarke County  
Athens Area Combined Federal  
Campaign  
Athens Area Community Foundation  
Athens Area Habitat for Humanity  
Athens First Bank and Trust  
Athens Housing Authority  
Briscoe Family Foundation  
Clarke County Cooperative Extension  
Clarke County School District  
Emmanuel Episcopal Church  
Employees of University of Georgia  
through Georgia Shares  
Enterprise Community Partners  
First American Bank and Trust  
Frances Wood Wilson Foundation  
Fortson, Bentley and Griffin  
Georgia Department of Community  
Affairs  
Holiday Benevolence Market  
John and Edna Garst  
Kaiser Permanente  
Keep Athens-Clarke County Beautiful  
Natural Resource Conservation Service  
Phil Novinger and Teresa Perenich  
Orange Co. Community Foundation  
Oconee State Bank  
Plum Creek Foundation  
Presbyterian Church USA  
Southface Energy Institute  
Sutherland  
Turner Family Foundation  
University of Georgia  
US Department of Agriculture  
Watson-Brown Foundation  
Wells Fargo

## Forest

Anonymous  
Bertis and Katherine Downs  
Elena Brown and Jared Harper  
Laurence and Mary O'Toole  
Dev and Gene Weeks  
The Winthrop Foundation

## Grove

Dr. and Mrs. Derrell Clark  
Gail Cowie  
Dennis Creech and Callie Pendergrast  
Neal and Pat Priest  
Lucy Rowland  
Kathy Prescott and Grady Thrasher  
Madeline and Phil Van Dyck

## Oak

Neal Anderson  
Kevin Barnes and Sara Beresford  
Jeanne Barsanti and C.E. Greene  
Kathleen Blane and Dan Everett  
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O.C. and Manita Dean  
Marie and Daniel DerVartanian  
Marty and Anne Emmanuel  
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John Lyndon  
Joe and Erin O'Brien  
Alex and Janet Patterson  
Elinor Myers Rees  
Dayne and Donna Shannon  
Margaret Spalding  
Marianne and John Stipe  
Deborah Weiler  
Suzi Wong

## Seedling

Randall and Carolyn Abney  
Charles Apostolik  
Milner and June Ball  
Gary and Joan Bertsch  
Barney and Anita Brannen  
Charles B. Burch Jr.  
Nancy Carter  
Mike and Liz Conroy  
Patricia Cooper  
Martha DeBeaugrine  
D.O.C.  
Delmar and Marian Finco  
Sarah Gaines and Wilson Barmeyer  
Tom and Anne Glass  
Dr. and Mrs. James Hall  
Hubert and Joan Harris  
Nina Hellerstein  
Dale and Emily Hoyt  
Cecil and Sandy Hudson  
Carl Jordan  
Daniel King  
Heather Kleiner  
Nat and Helen Kuykendall  
Erika Lewis  
David and Suzanne Lindsay  
Daniel Lorentz  
Kitty and Dan MacFarlane  
Nancy MacNair  
Dennis Mason and Eleanor Walker

Katha Massey  
Valrie McIntyre  
Angela and Richard Meltzer  
Kristin Nielsen  
Dorothy and Jim Newland  
Maureen O'Brien and George Wright  
Maria Camila Pardo  
Nelda Parker  
Al Pless  
Stephanie Ramsey  
Sigrid and Clate Sanders  
Karl and Debra Schab  
John Schelhas  
Amy Steele  
Margaret Strahl  
David Sweat and Kay Geise  
Bebe Verdery  
Clayton P. Wilcox  
Ed and Sue Wilde  
Helen Wilkes

## Acorn

Robinson and Barbara Fisher  
Paul Irvine

## Family

Doug Atkinson  
Scott and Mabel Atkinson  
Matt and Courtney Bowers  
Lynn Bryant  
Jared and Melissa Bybee  
Jeannine Collins and John Workman  
Elaine and Kenneth Darnold  
Judson and Sarah Doherty  
Jack and Sarah Frierson  
Nancy Hunter and Tom Edwards  
Cardee and Jeremy Kilpatrick  
Brian Koepnick  
Nancy Lindbloom  
Elizabeth Little  
Margaret McLanahan  
Dorothy and Walter O'Neill  
Helen Plymale  
Evelyn and Greg Reece  
Walter Reeves  
Mark and Margaret Reinberger  
Carl and Marion Schmidt  
John Schmidt  
Lee and Linda Schramm  
Paul Trudeau  
John Wightman  
Robert Wyatt

## Individual

Diane Adams  
Valerie Aldrige  
Bill Baggs  
Samuel and Elaine Carleton  
Gary Crider  
Carolyn Dalusky  
Al and Heidi Davison  
Carol Downs  
Matthew Epperson  
Rosemary Franklin  
Ghangela Jones  
Katherine Hoyt  
Cheryl Ledbetter  
Patricia McAlexander  
Judith McWillie  
Kula Campbell Moore  
Agnes Parker  
Annice Ritter  
Tom Rodgers  
Rich Rusk  
Sarah Schmitt  
Allison Wright

## Boulevard Woods:

Travis Burch  
Customers of the  
Independent Baking Co.  
Bertis and Katherine Downs  
Sandra Ringhand  
Allen and Merry Stovall  
Bruce and Jane Travis

## Thanks also to:

Comprehensive Health Management  
Carrol and Virginia Beavers  
David Berle  
Michael Gautreaux  
John Geary  
Georgia Power  
Jim Goolsby  
Independent Baking Company  
Melaleuca  
Chris McDowell of the  
UGA Material Reuse Program  
McLeod Farms  
My Tribute Gift Foundation  
David Palmer  
PHIL LLC  
Stephen Reichard  
Lewis Scruggs  
Slow Food of Greater Athens  
Stripling, Inc.  
Team Agriculture Georgia

## Enterprise Community Partners Supports Waddell Master Plan

With funding from a \$25,000 grant from Enterprise Community Partners, ALT held several meetings in 2013 with neighborhood residents in order to develop a master plan for the Waddell-Henderson area of the Hancock Corridor. The UGA Center for Community Design and Preservation conducted a charette and devised a plan to implement residents' vision for the neighborhood. ALT thanks Enterprise Community Partners for their investment in this historic neighborhood as well as the Athens Housing Authority for their continued support.

## Waddell Oral History Project

ALT received a grant from the Watson-Brown Junior Board of Trustees to document the Waddell neighborhood's history. Hearing residents' stories about their community's past sparked the idea of capturing the history of the last 80 years while there are still residents who know it. Thank you to the Watson-Brown Junior Board of Trustees for supporting this important project.

## Thank You to Donors in Memory of Al Pless

ALT was deeply saddened by the death of Al Pless, an ALT supporter who served as a Board Member and Treasurer from 1998-2004. We are privileged to have been the beneficiary of Al's expertise and leadership.

Melissa Batum  
Gregg Bayard  
Boulevard Neighborhood Association  
Bob Carson  
Jack and Sarah Frierson  
Beth Gavrilles  
Dana Jennings  
Shirley and Walter McNeely  
Earl and Eileen Miller  
Dorothy O'Neill  
Olivia and Martine Palmiter  
Kesler Roberts  
Jean Rowe  
Francis and Laura Ruffin  
Nancy Stangle  
Richard and Patricia Venurini  
J.L. Worley

## Financial Statements

<b>Assets</b>		<b>Revenue</b>	
Cash	351,383	Grants	701,787
Securities & Investments	273,798	Contributions & Event Income	334,030
Note for Fourth Street Village	500,000	Program Fees	200,661
Land held in trust (future development)	119,830	Home Sale Proceeds	727,500
Land held in trust (ground leases)	631,225	Lease-Purchase Receipts	55,166
Land held in trust (lease purchases)	1,336,480	In-Kind Donations	12,000
Rental property	264,884	Investment Income	4,996
Cottages at Cannontown	329,196	Other Income	6,015
Capitalized cost of construction in process	391,393	<i>Total Revenue</i>	<i>2,042,155</i>
Completed construction projects	432,395	<hr/>	
ALT Office Building & Equipment	290,162	<b>Disbursements</b>	
Other Current Assets	22,578	Program Expenses	1,590,824
<i>Total Assets</i>	<i>4,943,324</i>	Operating Expenses	55,943
<hr/>		Fundraising	12,723
<b>Liabilities and Equity</b>		<i>Total Disbursements</i>	<i>1,659,490</i>
Payables & Short Term Notes	904,970	<i>Net Assets Beginning of Period</i>	<i>2,736,665</i>
Long Term Debt	419,024	<i>Net Assets End of Period</i>	<i>3,119,330</i>
Other Liabilities	500,000		
<i>Total Liabilities</i>	<i>1,823,994</i>		
<hr/>			
Net Assets Unrestricted	281,107		
Net Assets Temporarily Restricted	2,838,223		
<i>Total Net Assets</i>	<i>3,119,330</i>		
<hr/>			
<i>Total Equity &amp; Liabilities</i>	<i>4,943,324</i>		
		<i>Audit conducted by Royals &amp; Associates.</i>	
		<i>To see the full audit, please contact the ALT office.</i>	