



# Member News

November 2006

## Wetlands protection: An ongoing stewardship responsibility

Beginning in the summer of 2005 and continuing through this month, our stewardship committee and board of directors have been working diligently on several wetlands protection efforts in the town of Berlin.

Because of the size and scope of these new residential developments and the fact that significant wetlands resources may be impacted, the BLT filed notices of intervention with Berlin's Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Commission (IWWC) in order to comment and provide input to *three plans*: In 2005, Toll Brothers plan for Regency at Berlin (in 2005). In 2006, Pistol Creek Associates' (Krame Development Co.) plan for several new lots on Spruce Brook Road, and the Broadview Residential plan for a high-density development off Meadow Road.

For assistance with the review of two of the above plans, the BLT sought technical assistance from wetlands experts from REMA Ecological Services LLC of Manchester CT. Their consultant reviewed site development plans with respect to their affect on wetlands to present to IWWC. They also taught the stewardship committee how to monitor stream conditions.

Overall, we feel that our project efforts to-date have been successful in that BLT board of directors

and town commissions have benefited from the dialog and new ideas generated by the reviews.

- **Long Acres Preserve** - - Dozens of hours have been spent monitoring the perennial stream that flows along the western boundary of the Long Acres Preserve in Berlin. This stream provides critical water source for wildlife between Lamentation Mountain cliffs and the Berlin Turnpike. The preserve is a rare gem of tranquility in the midst of an area which is currently undergoing a great deal of residential development.
- **Spruce Brook & Pistol Creek** - - When new residential development plans were submitted to the towns of Berlin and Middletown, The BLT spent considerable time reviewing and commenting on proposals at public hearings.
- **Broadview Residential Proposal** - - Because the BLT also may at times engage in projects beyond direct land protection, such as public policy and regulatory matters, the BLT has spent considerable resources to provide third-party wetlands experts to comment on this large residential development plan off Meadow and Toll Gates roads. 🏡

Remember, check the Berlin Land Trust website at [www.berlinlandtrust.org](http://www.berlinlandtrust.org) for meeting notices, news and program information!

## Thanks to Achieve Financial Credit Union!

### *New office space keeps BLT operations centralized & organized*

The timing was perfect! The BLT was in need of an office to collect and organize 18-years' worth of files, books, stewardship and program materials, and luckily, Achieve Financial Credit Union's (AFCU) marketing/business development vice president Kyong Wilson offered the space we needed...and more! With our new 12' x 16' loaned, interior office, furnished with donated furniture, we even have room for a conference table for committee meetings.

Located in the recently-renovated Magson Uniform building at 279 New Britain Road in Berlin, the office is open to BLT committee members during AFCU's normal business hours. Meetings can be arranged by appointment by calling the BLT phone at 860-828-4393. 🏡

Berlin Land Trust members are eligible to join Achieve Financial Credit Union! For information about the products and services AFCU offers, visit their website at [www.achievefinancialcu.com](http://www.achievefinancialcu.com)



BLT president Dennis Kern & AFCU's Kyong Wilson, vice president Marketing/Business Development on BLT's move-in day, Saturday, Feb. 18, 2006.