

Local land conservation trusts announce winners of their seventh annual photo contest.

LYME, February 28, 2012----The Lyme, Old Lyme, Salem, Essex and East Haddam land conservation trusts announced today the winners of their jointly sponsored amateur photo contest. The purpose of the contest was to focus on the celebrated and scenic countryside in those towns and its diversified wildlife. There were over 300 photos submitted from 85 photographers all over Connecticut. The ages of the photographers ranged from children to senior citizens.

This contest was made possible by the generous financial support provided by Lorensen Toyota, Oakley/Wing Group at Smith Barney, Evan Griswold at Coldwell Banker, Essex Savings Bank, ChelseaGroton Bank, Ballek Garden Center and Murtha Cullina LLP.

“There were so many wonderful pictures submitted that the judges had a difficult time selecting the winners” said Tony Sullivan, spokesperson for the conservation trusts.

The three independent judges are **William Burt**, a naturalist who has won acclaim for his books of wildlife photography: *Rare and Elusive Birds of North America*, *Shadowbirds*, and his recently released *Marshes: The Disappearing Edens*. **Amy Kurtz Lansing**, Curator at the Florence Griswold Museum and a Yale University doctoral candidate in the History of Art. She is also the author of *Historical Fictions: Edward Lamson Henry's Paintings of Past and Present* and **Rudy Wood-Muller**, a photographic illustrator and designer. His first large exhibition was at the New York World’s Fair in 1964 and was followed by numerous other shows, including a one-man show at the Rochester Institute of Technology. A group of his photographs have been selected to be part of the Permanent Collection of the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York.

“This year an additional award was given out to honor one of our prior judges, John G. Mitchell, who passed away” said Sullivan. “John, who was one of the editors at National Geographic, dedicated his career to writing about the environment and conservation, so the award was for the best picture reflecting that subject.”

The categories and names of the winners are:

JOHN G. MITCHELL – Environmental Conservation Award
Joan Meek, Old Lyme

PLANTS

First Place: David Dundorf, Salem
Second Place: Skip Broom, Hadlyme
Third Place: Tom Nemeth, Salem

Honorable Mentions: Tom Flynn, Durham
Stephanie Clayton, Old Lyme
Suzanne Zack, Old Lyme

LANDSCAPES/WATERSCAPES

First Place: Jeremy Dominijanni, Niantic
Second Place: Linda Waters, Salem
Third Place: Jean Callan King, East Haddam
Honorable Mentions: Jacob Egbert, Old Lyme
Don Quigley, Old Lyme
Cheryl Philopena, Salem

WILDLIFE

First Place: Don Quigley, Old Lyme
Second Place: Skip Broom, Hadlyme
Third Place: Hank Golet, Old Lyme
Honorable Mentions: Tom Bradbury, East Hampton
Tom Bradbury, East Hampton
Mark Roger Bailey, Essex

CULTURAL/HISTORIC

First Place: Mike Cathcart, Hadlyme
Second Place: Skip Broom, Hadlyme
Third Place: Skip Broom, Hadlyme
Honorable Mentions: Mark Roger Bailey, Essex
Cheryl Philopena, Salem
Tom Flynn, Durham

YOUTH

First Place: Haddie Walters, East Haddam
Second Place: Hannah Patten, Old Lyme
Third Place: Emma Pennie, Old Lyme
Honorable Mentions: Breanne Sullivan, Dumont, NJ
Charlotte Boland, Ivoryton
Jasmine Bazinet, Niantic

All the winning photographs will be available for public viewing at Phoebe Griffin Noyes Library at 2 Library Lane in Old Lyme during the month of April. The photos can also be seen at <http://landtrustsphotos.shutterfly.com/>