

PRESERVING: ■ FAMILY FARMS ■ SOIL ■ SCENIC VIEWS
■ RIVERS & STREAMS ■ CULTURAL SITES ■ SCENIC BYWAYS
■ GROUND WATER ■ RURAL CHARACTER



Clarke County Easement News

WINTER

2024

Tupper Dorsey & Family Honored with 10th Wingate Mackay-Smith Award

“They live and breathe the concept of preserving Clarke County resources.”



Tupper and Wendy Dorsey (center) accept the 10th Wingate Mackay-Smith Land Conservation Award from Clarke County Easement Specialist Allison Teetor (far left) and Winkie Mackay-Smith (far right) at February award luncheon.

For the past 10 years, the Clarke County Conservation Easement Authority members have gathered with area leaders annually to spotlight an individual or organization who has been vital to the county's success as one of Virginia's best at protecting land through easements.

In February, a special gathering at Millwood Country Club honored the 2023 recipient of the Wingate Mackay-Smith Land Conservation Award – Tupper Dorsey and Family – and took time to celebrate those honored throughout the decade of awards. *(See article at right.)*

With the Dorsey family, the selection was easy. “This is a family that lives and breathes the concept of preserving Clarke County resources,” said George Ohrstrom II, vice chair of the Authority. “With 732 acres in conservation easement, the Dorseys have incorporated natural resource conservation into their businesses and their lifestyle.”

Tupper is the president of a thriving Clarke County wholesale nursery, Moore & Dorsey Inc. His wife, Wendy, owns Yellow House Natives, a prosperous native plant sales business.

“This family works the land throughout the year, respecting the value that open space brings to Clarke County,” Ohrstrom continued.

The Dorseys also support the community by providing trees for such areas as the county's bike path. To make it a family affair, their

two children are involved – one now works with the family business and they both were summer interns with the Easement Authority.

In introducing the Dorseys as the 2023 award winners, Ohrstrom added: “Thank you, Tupper and Wendy, for your approach to land conservation, your business philosophy, and your love of the

“Development pressure is coming from everywhere.”

– Tupper Dorsey

land. You've helped move Clarke County's conservation easement program forward, preserving and protecting our natural resources forever... But I have to say one of the most impressive traits of this honoree is the family's mindset: That the combined strength of the county's easement community genuinely makes the difference.”

As Tupper and Wendy accepted the Wingate Mackay-Smith Land Conservation Award, they thanked the Easement Authority and county leaders for their land-conservation focus. And Tupper issued a friendly warning: “It's going to take even more work because development pressure is coming from everywhere.”

The goal of the Wingate Mackay-Smith Land Conservation Award is to honor individuals, groups, or organizations for outstanding contributions to protect our open spaces in Clarke County, to build awareness of the need for land conservation in Clarke County, and to showcase the positive role that conservation easements play in preserving the natural, scenic, cultural, and historic resources of the county.

A Milestone Year | Spotighting a Decade of Land Conservation Award Winners

Celebrating the tenth year of the Wingate Mackay-Smith Land Conservation Award, the Easement Authority invited previous winners to join the special luncheon.

“All of these individuals and groups have played incredibly important roles in land conservation in the county – and for many different reasons,” explained George Ohrstrom II, vice chair of the Authority. “They have been and many still are conservation easement leaders in our community, helping to forge the path for others and dispel the myths that often surround easements.”

Lorien Lemmon, the County's Conservation Planner and liaison to the Easement Authority, read the list of honorees, several of whom were at the event.

● **2014: Wingate “Winkie” Mackay-Smith.** Or, as often noted, the “Queen” of conservation easements in Clarke County. Winkie helped found the Easement Authority, negotiated the first easement at Greenway Court, and still works diligently to identify and educate landowners. These reasons and more are why this award was named after her.

● **2015: Holy Cross Abbey.** The Holy Cross Abbey community has now placed nearly 1,200 acres of riverside land in easement. Beginning in 2009, Holy Cross was courageous in taking this step because the idea of easements wasn't “mainstream” then, but the decision-makers believed in preserving the land and are exemplary stewards.

● **2016: Sliding-Scale Zoning Pioneers – Pete Dunning, Bob Lee, Bob Mitchell, and Margaret Maizel.** What can be said about this quartet of forward thinkers? The group's initiative, research, hard work, and courage paved the way for sliding-scale zoning in Clarke County beginning in 1980.

● **2017: Melvin Kohn.** In 2007, Dr. Kohn, a sociology professor at Johns Hopkins University, placed in easement his beloved 50-acre mountain property in northeastern Clarke County. In 2014, he donated the property and its cabin to the county for recreational use. He passed in 2021. Today, the county partners with the Potomac Appalachian Trail Club, which oversees the property.

● **2018: Joe and Denise Sipe.** The Sipes are a wonderful example of how a couple used their easement

land as part of their livelihood. Sipe Christmas Tree Farm in White Post was a not-to-miss holiday destination for many residents until it recently closed. The Sipes placed their 177 acres in easement in 2007.

● **2019: J. Michael Hobert.** As a district supervisor from 1999 to 2015, Hobert was instrumental in establishing the Easement Authority. And as a local attorney, he became an educator about conservation easements in the community and an ambassador for the cause.

● **2020: Cool Spring Battlefield.** With 195 acres in easement, Cool Spring Battlefield with the American Battlefield Trust and Shenandoah University were honored for protecting their open space and allowing the historic area to be a welcoming place for residents during the pandemic.

● **2021: Charles “Chuck” Johnston.** As a former Clarke County planning director, Johnston designed the county's Conservation Easement Purchase Program that the Board of Supervisors created by Ordinance in 2002. He did the research, established the criteria, wrote the code – all the critical details that make the program work today.

● **2022: Prue Anderson.** As a behind-the-scenes volunteer extraordinaire, Anderson for many years monitored easement properties, placed easement signs, made phone calls, and did whatever it took logistically to move the easement mission forward.

● **2023: Tupper Dorsey & Family.** *(See article at left.)*



The celebration of land conservation includes many of the previous winners of the Wingate Mackay-Smith Land Conservation Award. Above (from left, seated): J. Michael Hobert (2019), Winkie Mackay-Smith (2014), and Prue Anderson (2022); (standing) Robert Mitchell and G. Robert Lee (2016), Brother John Blaschik and Father James Orthmann of Holy Cross Abbey (2015), and Tupper and Wendy Dorsey (2023).

Quarterly newsletter published by the Clarke County Conservation Easement Authority dedicated to preserving properties with natural, cultural or scenic resources worthy of protection

Another Year of Enthusiasm for Easements in 2023

More than 25% of Clarke County land protected forever!

Closing out 2023, the Clarke County Conservation Easement Authority continued its important work preserving county property, with **153.77 additional acres placed under easement and five dwelling unit rights (DURs) retired.**

Conservation easements remain a popular land-conservation tool in our county. See the chart at right for the number of acres currently held by our Conservation Easement Authority and all its conservation partners – for an impressive 25% of county land.

Thank you to all who have been a part of this success story!

EASEMENT HOLDER	TOTAL ACRES
Clarke County Conservation Easement Authority	9,520
Appalachian Trail Conservancy	69
Department of Historic Resources	1,915
Department of Forestry	235
Lord Fairfax Soil and Water Conservation District	19
Land Trust of Virginia	207
National Park Service	241
Old Dominion Land Conservancy	47
Potomac Appalachian Trail Conservancy	194
Piedmont Environmental Council	404
Virginia Outdoors Foundation	15,845
TOTAL	28,695

THANK YOU, DONORS, For Your Generous & Ongoing Support!

(Our most recent donors are included here. Please consider joining this list.

Together, we can protect Clarke County's open spaces.)

Jane Aisles
Deborah J. & Bruce Anderson
Donald & Prudence Anderson
Katherine Anderson
Wayne & Linda Armbrust
Harry Lee Arnold, Jr.
Bob & Patty Aycock
Rives & Jesse Bacon
Susan Bailey
Timothy & Barbara Bandyke
Jim Barb
Kyle & Elizabeth Barbehenn
Robert Barnette
Matthew & Kelbi Bass
Barbara Batterton
Battlefield Estates Civic Association
Hobart & Shelia Bauhan
Thoma Bauhan
Susan & Kenneth Bell
Joy Belluzzi & Justin Demmerle
Harry Benham
Berryville Farm Supply
Donn & Lorene Besselievr
Maxeen Biben
Bill & Anke Blackburn
Doris Bloch
Blue Ridge Hunt
Christopher M. Boies
Dave & Mary Borger
Howard & Carol Borgstrom
Robina Rich Bouffault
Heather & William Bowen
Elizabeth Brown & Ralph Dewey
Stuart & Kate Brown
Charles Bruce
Randy Buckley
Steffanie Burgevin
John Burke
Toby Burke
Edward Burks
Edward & Margaret Burks, Jr.
S. David Burns
David & Kelly Burns
Jeff Burrledge
Beverly Byrd
Anne Caldwell
Bob & Lynne Cliborne Caldwell
Alice H. Calhoun
Robert* & Sandra Calhoun
Bruce & Joan Cameron
Robin & Jim Cardillo
Arden Carroll
John & Page Carter
Marianne Casey & Russ Wagner
Jane Caspar
Rick & Terri Catlett
Robert & Terry Chandler
Charles & Margaret Chase
Mary Owen Chatfield-Taylor
David Childs
Brooke Chilvers
Lionel & Ann Chisholm
Teresa & Tom Clawson
Patricia Cobb
Fredericka Cobey
Robert & Barbara Collis
Todd Combs
Petter Cook
Patricia Corbat
Ursula Coulson
Jeff & Kathleen Crandell
John & Mary Crawford
Thomas & Nancy Daugherty
Laurie Davis
Jim & Emily Day
Rod & AnnMarie DeArment
Alan Demmerle*
Ronald Dicus
Susan Digges

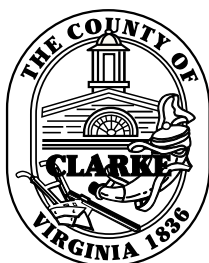
James Dillon
Jane Diven & Todd Canterbury
Michael & Joan Domenica
Lucy Byrd & Steve Dorick
Ernest Downs
W. Lawrence Duncan
Robinson & Reagan Duncan
Christy Dunkle
Pete & Liz Dunning, Jr.
Peggy Duvall
Todd Ellis
Cary Embury
Peter & Kathleen Engel
Richard Erb
Donna Evers, Twin Oaks Tavern Winery
Donald & Rose Fairman
Farnley Farm
Mazen & Carolyn Farouki
Juliana Fehr & Wendell Combest
Judd Felner
Andy & Barbara Ferrari
Brian & Nikki Ferrell
Norman & Joan Fine
Firehouse Gallery
Gary Foster
John & Janet Franceschini
Ned & Norma Fredrickson
Jessica & Roger Friedman
Barry Fry
Susan Gallagher & Michael Williams
Boyd Garlock
Jerome Garver
David George
Michael & Cleo Gewirz
Charles Gillespie
Calvin & Lisa Gloss
Phillip & Beverly Goode
Bob & Lisa Goshen
Vernon & M. Leann Grapes
Andrea Greene & Fred Hetzel
Ted Guarriello, Jr. Family Foundation
Joe & Susie Guenther
Janet Hamer
Michelle Hamilton
Matthew Hannan
Rebecca Harriett
Jeff & Celie Harris
Lucille Ellis
Harry Harris & Patsy Aikley
Wallace Hartsook
Wendell Hawken
Joseph & Lucia Henderson
Jimmy & Betsy Hill
Thomas Hill
Sven & Esra Hlywiak
Michael Hobert
John Hoel
Mack Holscher & Karen Fox
Chris & Andie Howells
Jo & Pearce Hunt
Terry & Rosemary Inoue
Robert & Jennifer Irwin
David & Candy Jackson
Douglas & Diane Jackson
Timothy & Tracy Jaeger
David & Dorothy Jelinek
R.I. & C.L. Jenkins
Bill & Jane Johnston
Matthew Jones, MD & Diane Sheehy
Michelle & Darrin Jones
Barbara Keebler & Terrence Giroux
Jeffrey & Erika Kelble
Charles Keller & William Moroney
Anne Beverley Kerr
The Kinney Family Fund of Arlington
Community Foundation
Hoon Kim
Kelly & Diana Kincannon
Mary Pamela Trought Klein

Eleanor Kobetz
Melvin Kohn*
Jeanne Krohn & Robert Wade
Ginger & Roderick Kronk
June & Warren Krupsaw
Ashley Laird
Frank Lee
C. Robert Lee
Robert & Ann Lesman
Robert J. Levy & Jennie Lee Thompson
John & Marjorie Lewis
Eric & Sara Lieser
Chris & Nancy Liggett
Patricia Little & Raymond Barbehenn
Joy & Carey Lokey
Gerald Lunt
Juliet Mackay-Smith
Justin & Meridith Mackay-Smith
Matthew* & Wingate Mackay-Smith
Hetty Mackay-Smith Abeles
A. & Leigh Mackay-Smith, Jr.
Paul & Annie Mahon
Gwendolyn Malone
Jane Mandelbaum
Carl & Patricia Maples
Stewart Marr
Linda Martz
John & Sophee Mason
Sean & Emily Mason
Winslow McCagg
Lester & Catherine McConville
Rebecca White McCoy
Anne McDonald
John Fields & Kendra McDonald
Lee McGuigan
P.T. McIntire
Bill & Anne McIntosh
Sandra & Charlie McIntosh
Bev & Stephanie McKay
Patsy McKelvy
Russell McKelway & Laura Dabinett
Michael McKenney
William & Leslie McLean
Leander & Mary McMillen
William McShea
Howard & Candy Means
Ihrle Means
Julie Miles
Michael & Millicent Miller
Ron & Alisa Miller
Mary Ann Milosavich
Sara Mitchell
Virginia Page Mitchell
Modern Mercantile
David Morris & Selena Smart
Michael W. Morris & Associates of Virginia
Dev & Betsy Morrison
Eunice Murray
Alfred & Paula Myer
Eric & Martha Myer
Arvind & Meenakshi Nandedkar
Luke Neff
Sally Neff
Joseph & Lois Nolter
Deb & David Norman
Bill & Lisa Novak
George Ohrstrom II
Andrew & Bernadette Panitz
Mark Paulson & Eunice Murray
Barbara Payne & Noel Grove
H.O. Peet Foundation
Brian Pence
Stephen & Joelle Pence
Kate Petranec
Iona F. Pillion
Bryan & Beth Plater
Eileen Powell
Nina & Bob Randolph
Parthenia Randolph

John-Paul Rankin
Victor & Laura Raphael, Jr.
Marc & Eileen Read
Joseph Reiff
Mary Jo Reilly
Hank & Tressa Reuling
Tony Reynolds & Claudia Vivanco
Daniel & Margaret Riley
Grace Ritzenberg
Caroline & David Roberts
Charles & Linda Roberts
Ian Roberts
Patricia & Neal Robinson
Alice Rodway
Christopher Rogers
Ralf & Phyllis Ruedinger
James* & Mary Ruos
Allison Karter Sams
Murray Schmechel
Robert Schonder
Jack Schutte
Lisa Seeburger
Scott Seeburger
Mary Serock
Darlene & Ralph Shaffer
Lee Sheaffer
Robin Short
Joseph & Denise Sipe
Stephen Skordinski
Peggy Smallwood
Nicholas & Mary Smart
Nick & Kathy Smart
Lowell & Elyse Smith
Nicholas Snow & Ms. Cathleen McCoy
Bob & Janet Soonthornchai
David & Marcia Speck
Richard Sponseller
John Staellin & Elizabeth Locke
Louise & Robert Stieg, Jr.
Sara Stern
Sid Stern
The Stern Foundation
Eric & Kathryn Steuer
Doris Stimpson
Bess Stuart
Dennis Taylor & Amanda Wilcoxon
Alison Teetor
Walker & William Thomas
Mr. & Mrs. Phillip Thomas
Donna & Robert Thompson, Jr.
Frank Trumbower
James D. Turner
Vern Underwood & Carol Schiebel
Lockett & Jerry Van Voorhis
E. Hawley Van Wyck
D. Brook Middleton
Virginia Easement Exchange
Laurie Volk
Marcia & Bill Waite
Lora Walburn
Rick Wallace & Tim Harvey
Natalie & Adam Webb
The Clara Weiss Fund
David & Anne Weiss
Jeffrey & Christie Anne Weiss
Karel Wennink
David & Lesa Wesley
Margaret M. Wester
F. Douglas & Judith Whitehouse
Carrie Jean Wilson
Dale & Stacy Wilson
Sylvia Wilson
Mildred Dunn Wilson*
J.L. Wyatt* & K.A. Clark
Alan & Sharon Young

* Deceased

Your Contribution is 100% Tax Deductible!



Clarke County Conservation Easement Authority

101 Chalmers Court
Berryville, VA 22611

Winter 2024

Please join these individuals in helping preserve open space in Clarke County. Complete & mail this form together with your check or credit card instructions in an envelope to the address below.

YES! I want to help preserve open space in Clarke County.

- ☐ Please accept the enclosed donation in the amount checked below made payable to the Clarke County Conservation Easement Authority.
- ☐ Instead, please charge my credit card for the amount checked below. ☐ MasterCard ☐ VISA

Account Number Exp. Date / Security Code

Name as it appears on the account

Signature

☐ \$35 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$75 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$250 ☐ \$500 ☐ \$1,000 ☐ Other \$ _____

Name Email

Address

City State ZIP

Make check payable to: Clarke County Conservation Easement Authority & mail to the address at left.

Or make your donation online at www.clarkeconservation.org