



OPACUM

LAND TRUST

PO Box 233
Sturbridge, MA 01566
508-347-9144
www.opacumlt.org
info@opacumlt.org

February 2010

Opacum's Annual Meeting

Saturday, March 20, 2010

10:00 a.m. - Noon

with returning guest speaker and local author

John Sheirer

Loop Year: 365 Days on the Trail



Join us for coffee and muffins and a guest speaker at The Apple Barn Café in Brimfield. If you missed local author John Sherier last September, you are in for a special treat.

Ahhhh! Hot coffee, good friends, and common causes! A relaxing Saturday morning, news and updates on projects at Opacum, and best of all, John Sheirer has agreed to share his story telling again with members and friends of Opacum Land Trust.

The Apple Barn Café is Brimfield's friendly, family-owned Breakfast & Lunch Spot located at 52 Palmer Road (Route 20).

Please let us know you are coming so the Collins' can bake enough yummy treats for all of us! And while we're there, take a minute to congratulate the them on the **Apple Barn's Fifth Anniversary!**

E-mail info@opacumlt.org or call 508-347-9144

Opacum Land Trust Annual Appeal

Many of you have already responded to our annual appeal, mailed in early December. Numerous membership renewals and donations towards the Flynt Quarry land purchase in Monson have been received. *If your notice is still sitting on your desk, remind yourself to mail it today. Thank you!*

LOOP YEAR: 365 Days on the Trail

What do you do if you're an amateur adventurer and environmentalist who dreams of hiking the Appalachian Trail or saving the rainforest, but you can't quit your day job or abandon personal commitments?

John Sheirer created his own project: from May 17, 2005 to May 16, 2006, he hiked the same trail in Somers, CT once a day, every day.

He chronicled the year in *Loop Year: 365 Days on the Trail*, a book composed of 365-word accounts of his hiking project. Along the way, Sheirer discovered that an obsession with hiking and caring for the same New England trail every day can be surprisingly adventurous.

Loop Year received the Connecticut Green Circle Award for environmental activism, and will be available for sale, as well as several other titles by the author. Please see John's website, www.johnsheirer.com for more information.

It's Almost Spring! Go for a walk!



10 YEARS OLD!

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THERE'S STILL TIME

Norcross Lecture Focuses on Flynt Quarry

On Saturday, March 20

The Flynt Quarry Lands will be the topic of a one-hour talk at the Norcross Wildlife Sanctuary in Monson.

Take a "virtual" walk to discover the history of the property and the Flynt Quarry. Learn about the quarrying, where Monson Granite went, and what the

land looks like today, almost 100 years after operations ceased.

This 165 acre property is nestled in the heart of Monson, and Opacum is currently partnering with the town to preserve it forever.

Norcross Lectures are held each Saturday during the winter months at 1:30 p.m. Please call 413-267-9654 for a reservation. For a complete list of lectures, visit www.norcrossws.org

UMass Keystone Program offering in April; Become A Cooperator!

Opacum is offering reimbursement to individuals who are interested in becoming a Keystone Cooperator, thanks to a generous gift from the West Springfield Grange. The UMass Keystone Program is an intensive 3-day training covering topics such as historical perspectives on land use, forest succession and ecology, forest and wildlife management, land protection tools, and community outreach. The program will be held April 15th - 18th, 2010 at the Harvard Forest in Petersham.

Applications are due March 1, 2010. For more information, visit masskeystone.net or e-mail info@opacumlt.org.

News Flash!

Flynt Quarry Race to the Finish! Saturday, June 13th

A trail run & walk to benefit the Flynt Quarry.

To volunteer or to participate, e-mail info@opacumlt.org



Can you believe it? Opacum is turning 10 in 2010

We're planning programs to celebrate this milestone with you.

After all, we wouldn't have made it this far without you!

Watch for more information!
www.opacumlt.org.



Mark Your Calendar! Opacum's Annual Plant Sale Sunday, May 16th

**8:00 a.m. till Noon
at the Southbridge
Town Common**