

## LAND TRUST ACQUIRES NEW GROBE PRESERVE IN TIME FOR 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

The Bethany Land Trust is thrilled to report that it has acquired the 25-acre Grobe Preserve in time for the Land Trust's 50<sup>th</sup> year. Located in the northwest corner of Bethany, the Grobe Preserve is an inholding in the Mendell's Folly/Woodward Preserve complex that was retained by the family when the Mendell's Folly Preserve was donated to the Trust in 1971. The Land Trust has long hoped to acquire the property as it is an essential upland habitat for the Mendell's Folly/Woodward Preserve wetland and watercourse complex. The Mendell/Grobe family generously agreed to sell the property to the trust at half its appraised value. The Land Trust utilized a grant from the Audubon Society/Army Corp of Engineers In-Lieu Fee Wetland mitigation program to purchase the property. The property scored very highly on the habitat values that are necessary for receiving the grant and is home to at-risk Connecticut species.

In celebration of the acquisition and of the Trust's 50<sup>th</sup> year, the Land Trust is now establishing a Stewardship Fund to protect and preserve in perpetuity the 186-acre Mendell/Woodward/Grobe Preserve complex, as well as its other preserves. The fund will be used for habitat enhancement, trail construction and maintenance as well as monitoring and, if necessary, legal defense of the Land Trust preserves. We ask you to shepherd the Land Trust into its second half century and beyond by making a generous donation to the Bethany Land Trust Stewardship Fund.