



# the OAK LEAF

a publication of the white oak land conservation society

Winter/Spring 2005

## Muschopauge Brook Project Gets a Boost from Congress

For the past two years, White Oak and the Trust for Public Land have been collaborating with the City of Worcester to find a way to protect approximately 200 acres along the Muschopauge Brook, which runs near the Rutland-Holden town line. This wild area, which abuts the Holbrook swamp, has little evidence of human activity and harbors wildlife including moose, otter, beaver and fisher. The first piece of the puzzle fell into place when Rep. Jim McGovern announced that the U.S. Congress had approved a \$400,000 Forest Legacy grant for the project. The City of Worcester will be a major financial contributor. Additional funds are being sought from the State Executive Office of Environmental Affairs through the Drinking Water Protection program. The brook drains directly into the Quinapoxet Reservoir, which provides



*Judy Haran, Chris LaPointe of TPL, Christy Edwards from MA EOE, and Phil Guerin from Worcester DPW brave the snow to visit Muschopauge Brook*

drinking water to residents of Worcester and Holden, before eventually entering the Boston water supply system. Thanks to Rep. McGovern and Senators Kennedy and Kerry, as well as to our many members who wrote letters of support for this critical project! **Stay tuned.**

## Harold Henrickson Donates 10 Acres

White Oak is proud to be the recipient of a very generous donation of approximately 10 acres of land from Mr. Harold Henrickson of Chapin Road. Mr. Henrickson's parents, originally from Finland, settled on lower Chapin Road in 1911, and raised a family of 6 children. Harold Henrickson grew up there and lived there until his recent move to Worcester. Two sisters still reside on the street. He and



*Harold Henrickson (center) with \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_*

his brother Alfred enjoyed hunting, and spent much time in the woods. He is the proud uncle of many nieces and nephews. Mr. Henrickson feels strongly that the land, which consists of beautiful fields and woods, should be preserved in its natural state. He hopes that his gift will inspire similar generosity from other Holden landowners.

## THANK YOU

**Richard Johnson**, for sharing his wildlife photos at the Annual Meeting  
**Jack Namiotka**, for providing free office space, not to mention heat and electricity!  
**Jed Mannis** of the Shelter Island Fund for ongoing consultation  
**Joe Gauthier** of PLACES Site Consultants for land survey work  
**Carron Mentzer** at the Holden Assessor's Office for helping with names and addresses  
**Greater Worcester Community Foundation** for grant for collaborative staff project  
**Greater Worcester Land Trust** for ongoing project support



