Land Gifts have been given to protect great areas around Lake George for many years. A gift of land that has a fair market value of at least $100,000 entitles the donor to membership in the Apperson Society.

**Legendary Piece of the Rock – Roger’s Rock**

*Tom Adams*

Tom Adams remembers when his wife, Virginia, fell in love with the land near Rogers Rock while they were renting a property called “Bayside” in Heart Bay. Tom liked the big Bayside house with its generous 40-foot living room. Virginia liked the Lakeview Cottage with its southern view over Rogers Slide. “I realized how serious she was when one day she said to me that either I needed to move Bayside to Rogers Rock or I needed to move the lake to Bayside,” Tom recalled recently. He has never once regretted the move to Lakeview Cottage.

Tom and Virginia purchased the old Rogers Rock Club with Marcelino and Judith Lavin in 1976. There were many original cottages on the 120-acre tract but the 1874 grand three-story hotel had been torn down in 1948. In two transactions, in 1999 and in 2004, the Adams and Lavin families donated to LGLC 94 acres with 2,530 feet of Lake George historic shoreline, known as Rogers Rock and Little Slide. The idea of the second land donation became attractive to the families when New York State purchased Flat Rock, which lies along the eastern shore, opposite Rogers Rock.

“Our respective families are pleased to make this gift to LGLC in the hope that it will further its efforts and thus safeguard the drinkable water quality in Lake George’s north basin and preserve the scenic grandeur of both Rogers Rock and Anthony’s Nose mountain bastions,” said Tom in 1999 when the first gift was announced. In 2003 LGLC transferred Rogers Rock to New York State but retains title to the 2004 gift of Little Slide.

Today the private Rogers Rock Club contains restored and new cottages settled
around the renewed grounds. The state-owned Rock is now a popular climbing spot with nine routes up the rock face boasting names like Zip Rod and Screaming Meany, and generations of peregrine falcons have reared their young on its slopes.

LGLC remains grateful to the Adams and Lavin families for their vision and work to protect this historic treasure along the northern basin of Lake George.

**Land Is Forever and the Most Precious Gift**  
*Alex Levitch, Co-Owner, Adirondack Camp*

When I think back on the heroes in my life, the first thought that occurs is that I didn’t know most of them. I pray that will be equally true in the lives of our children’s children – that their lives will be positively and vitally impacted by men and women of good will, whom they won’t even know! Of all the anonymous heroes in my life, none stand taller than those men and women who have had the vision to protect this planet and the wilderness around us, especially, this magnificent lake that so many of us have come to love and to make a permanent part of our lives. I can’t begin to tell you how many young lives have been shaped for the good in the course of a handful of summers on this magical lake through special places that speak to an earlier and simpler time, like Adirondack Camp, which could not exist but for the vision and action of those who would conserve and protect. Thank you, LGLC, and donors for a gift that is far more precious than the price of land. Thank you for being heroes and for that ray of sunshine, which shall shine in the lives of all our children’s children.