

Guy Peterson Press Release

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Clarence (Guy) O. Peterson from the Newtown Forest Association, Inc. Running for Terrafirma Insurance Northeast Region Representative on the Membership Committee

Land trusts in Connecticut that use Terrafirma insurance need to know that all policy holders are entitled to vote for the Northeast Region representative on the Membership Committee. The Membership committee is the governing board that is elected to represent the policy holders and to help oversee the Terrafirma operations. This election is occurring in early November and if you are a policy holder (a Member) you will be notified shortly of the upcoming election. This year Clarence (Guy) O. Peterson from the Newtown Forest Association, Inc. ("NFA") is running for this elected position.

Guy said, "If elected, I look forward to contributing my skills to this very worthy organization. I have been following the Terrafirma model from its infancy. My interest in Terrafirma came out of having dealt with an expensive title dispute between the NFA, an all-volunteer land trust, and an abutter. Having gone through this costly litigious experience, the Terrafirma model was a very attractive solution for all land trusts to use when facing these complex type issues."

Guy is a Certified Public Accountant for over 31 years, working for Deloitte & Touche, LLP. The knowledge gained serving the land trust community for almost 20 year, and Guy's professional experience will add value to Terrafirmas' group of dedicated professionals and volunteers. Guy said. "I have demonstrated my ability to work as part of a team, work independently and roll up my sleeves to get the job done. One of my most valuable assets is my ability to look through the emotion of difficult issues and evaluate objectively the facts to formulate a conclusion. My professional role has recently been focused internally; dedicated to reviewing and challenging the audit work performed by other professionals, essentially, I am auditing the auditors (not as boring as it sounds). Other skills that I believe will add value to Terrafirma is that I am focused on ethics & compliance with professional standards and internal policies.

Said Amy Blaymore Paterson, Executive Director, Connecticut Land Conservation Council, "Guy has been a dedicated board member of the Newtown Forest Association since 2003, and has been an active participant in CLCC programs, including a regular presenter at our Treasurer's Focus Group."

Guy commented, "I am excited about the potential to serve the Terrafirma policy holders and hope to join the team as a Members Committee representative. It will be helpful to Connecticut land trusts to have me as a local representative serving on the Terrafirma Membership Committee. Combining my professional career experience and my passion for the land trust community is something I feel will make me perfect for this role; please consider placing your vote. **Every vote counts; according I ask that you please ask your land trust to place your Membership vote for Guy Peterson.**"

About Terrafirma from their website: “The Land Trust Alliance formed Terrafirma in 2011 to help land trusts defend their conserved lands from legal challenge. It is owned by its members to insure the costs of upholding conservation easements and fee lands held for conservation purposes when they have been violated or are under legal attack, and to provide information on risk management to those land trusts. This national initiative demonstrates land trusts' commitment to take seriously their responsibility to ensure the permanence of their conservation work.”