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For immediate release

## **Land Trust appoints new directors**

The St. Simons Land Trust has appointed four new members to its board of directors. The new directors are Bob Atwood, former chief financial officer of First Union (Wachovia); Ted Davis, CEO of Dorcy International in Columbus, Ohio; Lee Richards, former executive with Southwire Co. in Carrollton and a newcomer to St. Simons, and Ed Ralston, a former carpet magnate in north Georgia.

The four succeed Frances McCrary, Jeanne Manning, Jameson Gregg and Jerry Keen. McCrary and Manning were founding members of the Land Trust in 2000.

The Land Trust has also selected Ben Slade, former chairman of the board, to serve a one-year term as chairman, succeeding Duane Harris.

“Duane and the staff have put us in position to accelerate some ambitious plans we’re putting in final form,” Slade said. “We also owe the retiring directors a tremendous debt for all that they have done to get us where we are. I’m particularly delighted to have four new directors whose background and experience will be very valuable as we expand the scope of our undertakings.”

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The St. Simons Land Trust’s mission is to preserve the island’s natural and scenic character and to enhance the quality of life of the island community for present and future generations. The Land Trust currently protects 72 acres of property on St. Simons Island. Its most recent accomplishment is the completion of the Gilbert Nature Trail adjacent to the bike path on Frederica Road at Devonwood.

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