

Larry Behunek, photographer
703 978 4983

behunek@cox.net
www.behunekfineart.com

Trish Crowe, creative director for *The Legacy of the Land*
& President of the Blue Ridge Foothills Conservancy
540 948 5444

TheLegacyoftheLand@gmail.com
www.BlueRidgeFoothillsConservancyVA.org

The photo project for the Blue Ridge Foothills Conservancy, *The Legacy of the Land*, was conceived a few years ago at a painting show at Firnew Farm. Larry had just purchased a Nikon D-70 digital camera to shoot references for his landscape painting. Then President, Carl Schmitt, and Trish Crowe thought that photos like these, depicting the natural beauty of the land and farms, would be a great way to promote the Conservancy.



The commitment had its challenges. Larry lives in Fairfax, VA. Lighting and weather are crucial elements of a good landscape image and the logistics of being at the right location in Madison, at the right time, while living almost 2 hours away was often stressful. Larry works in a government office without windows and would often get an e-mail from Trish as to how spectacular a day it was down there. He claims he often felt like a storm chaser, watching the forecast in Madison for puffy white clouds, snow or fog. Time was limited and the first snow could be the last.

The other challenge was the scope of the project. The subject was to capture four seasons of lands in conservation easement within the wide open vistas of the foothills of the Blue Ridge. To use all your senses, and reduce it to a 2-dimensional flat plane and capture the emotions you are experiencing is no small feat.

Now, nearly four years later, Larry feels a great sense of accomplishment from the project, not only for the many great images - reflections of truth, and records of time; but they may help preserve the landscape, so that other generations can experience the same wonders of the Blue Ridge that we are so fortunate to have here today.