



Fall 2018  
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[www.landtrust.org](http://www.landtrust.org)

## A Change of Seasons for LTC Leadership

FOR NEARLY 34 YEARS, LTC HAS HAD THE GOOD FORTUNE TO ENJOY THE leadership of what has been fondly known as the “Two Toms”: Tom Lagerstrom and Tom Bailey. Together, their combined talents along with the skills and direction of a diverse board of trustees have garnered membership support to carry and grow the organization into the community institution it is today. Over their tenure, the organization has worked with landowners to protect almost 60,000 acres of northern Michigan land throughout the five-county service area. This land includes nearly 400 nature preserves and roughly 106 miles of groomed and maintained trails on LTC preserves. More than 140,000 school children have participated in an LTC environmental education since education programming began in 1986.

In recent years, Tom Lagerstrom has moved from full-time to part-time and continues to be an invaluable wealth of knowledge, information, and sheer workhorse power for the organization and the staff. But Tom Bailey worked his last day as executive director on August 7, the day of the organization’s 46th annual meeting. At that meeting, Bailey handed the executive director title over to long-

time staff member, Kieran Fleming. The change marked the end of one era and the beginning of another.

“Although leadership is critical, all of us at LTC recognize on a daily basis that the success of the organization is due to you, our generous and involved community. Thank you to our members, donors and volunteers for all you have done for LTC and we look forward to working in partnership with you to continue preserving and protecting all that we love about our beautiful northern Michigan.”

**- Marta Olson**

committee evaluate and restructure the program. “Wearing different hats within the organization has given me a deeper sense of exactly what we are all about,” Fleming said. “Over the last year, the board and staff have put together a five-year vision to keep us clear in our goals and expectations. This is something that will guide us in our annual strategic plan and give us a shared vision as we look to the future.”

Incoming chair, Marta Olson, has served on the board and board committees for several years and looks forward to her new role as well. “Since Little Traverse Conservancy is engaged with the natural world in northern Michigan, seasonal change shouldn’t surprise us; indeed, such change often energizes us. As we enter a new phase of leadership at LTC this year, we have been looking back on our progress with gratitude and looking forward with confidence.”



Tom Bailey (R) hands Kieran Fleming his new Executive Director name tag at the August 7 annual meeting.



Longtime LTC Associate Director Tom Lagerstrom (left) and outgoing Board Chair Gregg Garver.

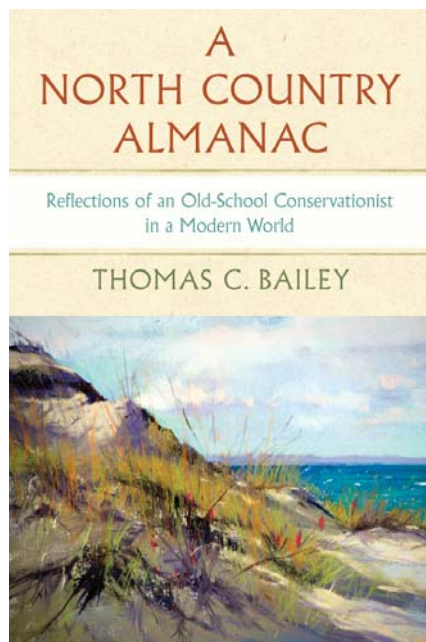


## ***Conservation is forever. Your legacy can be too.***

The mission of the Little Traverse Conservancy is to protect the natural diversity and beauty of northern Michigan by preserving significant land and scenic areas, and fostering appreciation and understanding of the environment. If LTC's work resonates with you, consider a planned gift. With a multitude of options, the planned giving tool you choose will be a reflection of your goals for yourself, your family and your overall estate plans. Most importantly, a planned gift can be an expression of your desire to make a difference — and leave a legacy that lasts forever.

*"We make a living by what we get,  
but we make a life by what we give."*  
~ Winston Churchill

For more information or to share that you have included Little Traverse Conservancy in your estate plans, please contact Ty Ratliff, Director of Donor Relations at 231.344.1005 or [tyratliff@landtrust.org](mailto:tyratliff@landtrust.org)



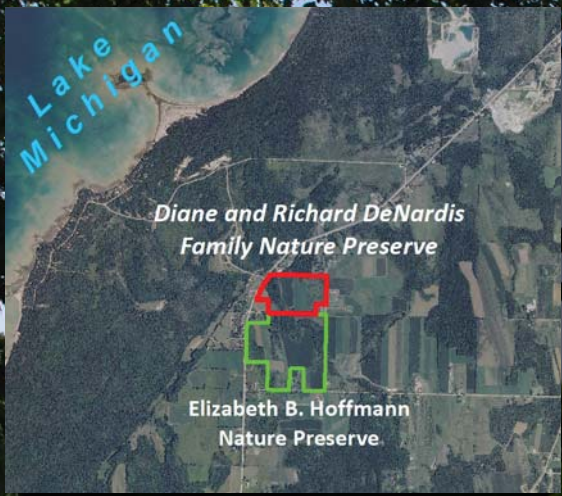
## **A North Country Almanac**

***A perfect "Up North" gift for yourself or those who love northern Michigan!***

**From MSU Press:** A North Country Almanac: Reflections of an Old-School Conservationist in a Modern World includes the musings of an independent mind on wilderness, the conservation ethic, and the joys of loving the outdoors. Although a lifelong conservationist, Thomas C. Bailey has never unquestioningly accepted environmental dogma. The essays here often challenge familiar assumptions about stewardship of natural resources. The former National Park ranger, fishing guide, and conservancy director offers a rich variety of perspectives on an interesting array of topics, returning always to his fundamental belief that conservation pioneers such as John Muir, Theodore Roosevelt, and Aldo Leopold had it right when they affirmed Walt Whitman's observation that "the secret of making the best person . . . is to grow in the open air and to eat and sleep with the earth."

*Books are available through the Little Traverse Conservancy office at \$25/each. The cost of the book's printing was underwritten by Sally and Ian Bund, so all proceeds from the book sales come as donations to the Conservancy. Call the office at 231.347.0991 to place an order.*





## The Diane and Richard DeNardis Family Nature Preserve

WHEN DIANE DENARDIS CALLED DIRECTOR OF DONOR RELATIONS Ty Ratliff out of the blue last winter, she had a generous proposal. She and her husband, Richard, had fallen in love with northern Michigan over the years and often noticed the Little Traverse Conservancy nature preserve signs at different locations. They were curious, and visited the website, which then prompted the call. “We asked Ty if there was a special piece of property that the Conservancy was seeking to fund, as opposed to something random.”

Ty had just the parcel in mind: a 63-acre property directly north of the new Elizabeth B. Hoffmann Nature Preserve in Charlevoix County’s Norwood Township had recently become available. The land includes more than 4,000 feet of Inwood Creek (a tributary to Lake Michigan) and nearly 1,000 feet along US-31. “This parcel met several of our land protection criteria,” Ty explained. “First off, it is adjacent to another preserve; secondly, it lies along the US-31 corridor, one of our priority programs; and thirdly, it contains significant wetland and wildlife habitat within the Lake Michigan watershed. Added up, these features made this property highly desirable for protection.”

When Ty took the DeNardises out to visit the land, they liked it right away. “We love northern Michigan and it means a lot to us to make an impact like this and protect this property,” Diane commented. “And the Conservancy is certainly a great protector of the northern landscape. It is all about the future generations going forward. We like that it is open to the public and protected forever.”

Diane also noted that she did not realize farming was allowed on some of the protected lands and is glad that the preserve can serve this multi-function. As with the adjacent Hoffmann Preserve, the new DeNardis Preserve land has been leased by local farmers for growing hay and other crops for many years. “We will work with neighboring farmers who may want to continue using the land in this way,” Ratliff confirmed.

Because of its location so close to Charlevoix and so easy to access off of US-31, the land will also be considered for a hiking trail. “We will want to evaluate the local desire to have such a trail before we make any firm plans,” said Derek Shiels, Director of Stewardship.



Richard and Diane DeNardis standing along Inwood Creek on the new preserve.

“We love northern Michigan and it means a lot to us to make an impact like this and protect this property.”

- Diane DeNardis





# 29th Annual Save the Trees

**From Sarah Gurney, Administrative and Event Coordinator:** *"I have never been a part of such an amazing fundraising evening! The 230 guests and sponsors helped us raise over \$65,000! That surpasses the 2017 record breaking \$58,000! Thank you to Little Bay Boards/ Boards for Reasons for donating the one-of-a-kind stand up paddle board, this was the show stopper! I am overwhelmed that this event is getting bigger and better and so much fun! Don't have FOMO (fear of missing out), it is an amazing party!"* (In the past 28 years this event has raised more than \$825,000 for land protection in our northern Michigan "corner of Heaven.")

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## Save the Trees Benefit Committee

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*\*past chair*

## In-kind sponsors

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Chris Tracy (shown here with his wife Michelle and sons Mike and Nick ) was the lucky raffle winner of the Boards for Reasons paddleboard.



# Honoring Family

## MORRIS-DE LA VERGNE & LUETTJOHANN-GARVER NATURE PRESERVES



Kim and Bill Morris

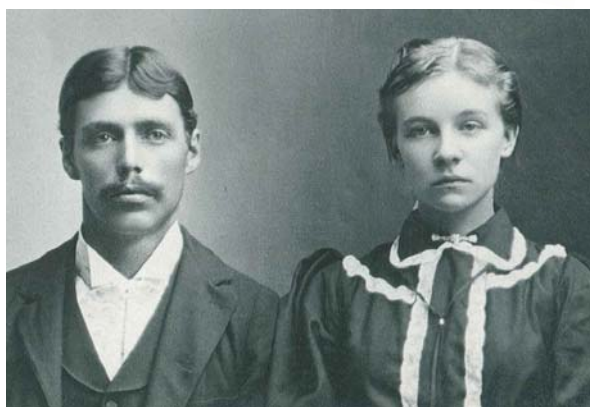
KIM LUETTJOHANN AND BILL MORRIS FIRST MET AT the Petoskey softball field along the shores of Little Traverse Bay more than 40 years ago. Their marriage symbolizes a confluence of both sides of the bay: Kim was born and raised in Petoskey and Bill was raised in Harbor Springs, mostly in the home that he and Kim have refurbished and where they now live. The couple returned to the region five years ago after living and working for 35 years in Texas.

In a fitting tribute to their and their family's love of the land, Bill and Kim recently funded the purchase of a total of 30 acres to form two adjacent preserves located one mile north of Harbor Springs along Hughston Road. Much of the land was once owned by Bill's Uncle Bob. The preserve is also not far from the farm where Kim's great-grandparents once lived. Growing up, her family spent a lot of time in

Harbor Springs. "I've identified Harbor Springs as my home even more than Petoskey," Kim said.

"So much has changed since I grew up here," Bill said. "I like the Conservancy because it keeps the land as it was."

The new preserves consist of upland hemlock forest with hilly terrain. There is a small clearing off of Hughston Road on the eastern Luettjohann-Garver Preserve where a home used to exist. Trees had been cleared at the base of a ridge to provide views of Lake Michigan. "This land is ready made for community use," said Ty Ratliff, Director of Donor Relations. "There are existing trails that just need to be cleaned and marked and a parking area can easily be located at the old home site. We anticipate this preserve complex will soon become well loved by neighbors and area visitors."



Family pictures L-R: John and Loraine Luettjohann and sons Bob (L) and John Jr.; Jacob and Selma Garver; Bob de la Vergne, who loved the land and once owned much of the new preserve.





# Addition to Taylor Horton Creek Nature Preserve



A drone's view of the newly-protected 40-acre property with 700 feet of meandering frontage along Horton Creek. The creek is flanked primarily by lowland conifers with the remainder of the property upland hardwoods and open meadow. The Charles M. and Joan R. Taylor Foundation provided the funding for this beautiful preserve addition which brings the Taylor Horton Creek Nature Preserve to a total of 187 acres. The preserve is part of a larger complex of preserves that together include more than 300 acres.



## Update on Working Forest Reserves

To date, the Little Traverse Conservancy has protected 25 Working Forest Reserves totaling 4,383 acres within our service area. These properties are protected in perpetuity and are managed for sustainable timber production and improved wildlife habitat. In Charlevoix County, a harvest on our Working Forest Reserve Parcel #3 off of Townhall Road just wrapped up and, in the next year, Parcels #1 and #2 will begin. In Chippewa County several harvests are planned on Sugar Island Parcels #2, #3, and #5 to occur in the next two years. In Emmet County, a harvest is scheduled to occur in the next two years on our Offield Working Forest Reserve. Please refer to the Interactive Project Map found on our website for the exact locations of these properties, and if you have any questions about our Working Forest Reserves or upcoming harvests, please contact us at 231.347.0991.

**NOTE:** A “no cut” period is designated from April through July on Conservancy properties for three primary reasons: 1) to avoid damage while ground is wet and soft; 2) to avoid bird nesting season; and 3) to avoid spreading the oak wilt disease during that time period.



## John and Barbara Hazelworth Nature Preserve

A 10-acre property adjacent to the 32-acre George and Marion Light Nature Preserve in Norwood has been acquired thanks to a lead gift, Norwood community donations, and a grant from the Charlevoix County Community Foundation. The new preserve is named after Maureen Colwell's parents - John and Barbara Hazelworth - who vacationed "up north" for decades, and bought a home in Petoskey upon their retirement around 1992.

"After my mother died, my dad told me that when he died, he wanted me to donate some money to the LTC to purchase land. It was his top wish and my favorite request from him because we had spent time with both of them enjoying nature and exploring the area for many years," said Maureen, who works as an environmental educator in North Carolina.

John spent much of his professional career in Physical Oceanography, eventually working with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association (NOAA) in Washington, D.C. and Miami. Barbara worked for a senator in Washington, D.C. before moving to Florida. While John loved the warmth of the south, Barbara loved cold weather and their compromise was to spend summers in northern Michigan.

The Hazelworths had many friends in the area, and loved sailing, picnicking at the parks along US-31 overlooking the lake, and driving along the Tunnel of Trees to Legs Inn. Many summers they would take their two grandsons to Raven Hill Discovery Center near East Jordan and to beaches along Little Traverse Bay.

The new preserve adds protection to a cedar swamp that runs through both the Hazelworth and the Light preserves. "We're thrilled to see the protection of this area expand," said Caitlin Donnelly, Director of Land Protection. "Marion Light has observed many species of wildlife using this wetland as their home. It helps conserve the quality of land that makes Norwood so special."



An intermittent stream flows through the new John and Barbara Hazelworth Nature Preserve in Norwood.

### *Gleaned from Social Media: Best Practices for Sustainability*

In the days leading up to Save the Trees, LTC had a comment posted on our Facebook page regarding the wooden paddleboard being raffled at a "Save the Trees" event. The inquiry was in at least partial jest, but it does illustrate the perceived contradiction we face and the opportunity to inform and educate. Here is what was posted:

*"Ok I have to say it, 'save the trees.' Is that real wood? I am very confused"*

#### **Jason Thelen's (owner of Little Bay Boards) response:**

"The body of the board is built with SFP (sustainable forestry product) woods that were harvested from a family farm that has forested the same acreage for 110 years. Instead of clear cutting, they understood long before it was the "In" thing to do, the importance of sustainability. The custom tree inlay is built from a really old handrail system that was going to the landfill before we got our hands on it. We didn't take down more than what was needed to build this project or honestly any project we do. Also this event will help to raise the funds that the LTC uses to manage all the trail systems and conservation lands around Northern Mi. It's real wood that I use to make the boards I know...it seems like I'm killing trees to do so...But with a little education we can learn that sustainable forestry, VOC compliant resins, minimal carbon foot printing and building things that last forever and don't end up in a landfill actually do make a huge difference. The "board" industry is dominated by China made, poisonous foams. Imported through our oceans, these products aren't meant to last long or help our environment in any way. So yes...we are saving trees."

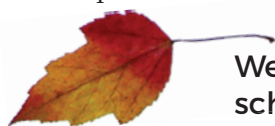




## Six Ways to Engage Your Knee-High Naturalist

*Our summer Knee High Naturalist programs are not the only time you can engage your adventurous kids in the outdoors. Here Knee High Naturalist 2018 environmental educator, Sam Kruguer, shares six ideas you can implement to spark curiosity, discovery, and playfulness in your knee high naturalist at a LTC preserve near you.*

1. **Share stories and songs.** Ages three to five thrive on stories and songs which are incredible tools for helping young children learn. Before your visit to one of our nature preserves, do a little research on what plants or animals you might find there and bring a story or song along that relates. This age also loves sharing stories about their experiences. Give them time to share these stories which are often sparked when discovering something familiar. If you really want to get creative, try making up a story about the plants, animals, clouds, etc. you are encountering.
2. **Get messy.** Learning is often chaotic and more than often messy (especially with three to five year olds!). Be prepared to get messy during your outings. The whole point is to let your naturalist interact with nature, which means using as many senses as possible. Get ready to fully experience the place where you are by digging in the soil or dipping your feet in the water. Wear clothing that you do not mind getting messy and bring an extra set for the way back.
3. **Ask open-ended questions.** When your child discovers something, instead of asking, "Do you know what that is?" ask them to describe what they found. "What does it look like?" "Smell like?" "Sound like?" Close-ended questions only require a yes or no answer and shut down conversation quickly, whereas open-ended questions encourage someone to describe what they are experiencing and use prior experiences to build on their knowledge.
4. **Allow them to share something with you.** As an environmental educator, I am often eager to share my knowledge with students. However I must be careful not to overpower them with my own interests. It is important to be excited about something that you show your naturalist, but be equally excited about something they show you! Ask open-ended questions about what they are experiencing and give them time to explain without interruption.
5. **Use all senses.** We can learn so much more about the natural world when we experience it through all our senses. Encourage your young naturalist to touch natural objects with different textures or find patterns of color and shape in nature. Dig up some soil or crinkle fallen leaves and take a big whiff. Go on a sound hike and keep track of as many different sounds as you can hear. Bring a snack and take time to smell each item and savor the flavor. Act out an animal and imagine what they would see, hear, touch, and smell.
6. **Sit, snack, and reflect.** After all this play, you will want to eat a healthy snack (fruits, veggies, etc.) and drink plenty of water to refuel. Take time to find a special spot to sit, snack, and reflect. Ask your naturalist, "What did you do today?" "What was your favorite part?" Encourage them to share stories about their experience.



**We are now registering for environmental education programs for the 2018-2019 school year. Call 231.347.0991 to find the right date and time for your class!**



*The following gifts were given between May 21-August 27, 2018*

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### Thomas C. Bailey

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Gregg and Debra Garver  
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Julie Schwartzfisher  
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Elaine Siwiec  
Shari Schult  
Tim, Janice, Noah, Jesse and  
Emma Swanson

Linda Ward  
Theresa Will  
Jennifer Woods  
Dave Zechman  
(Rick's friends at McLaren  
Northern Michigan Clinical Education  
Department, McLaren Northern  
Michigan IT Department, and  
McLaren Field Services Team)

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### Carol Wierenga

Ms. Darlene Dawood

*"Delicious autumn! My very soul is wedded to it, and  
if I were a bird I would fly about the earth seeking the  
successive autumns." - George Eliot*



# MEMBER PROFILE



Kevin, Lisa, Brielle, Henry and Will Harris

## The Burris Family

Our favorite preserve was a tossup between two. Our favorite tried and true go-to for most activities is McCune Nature Preserve, just east of Petoskey. I believe we've visited it every month of the year, hiking, geocaching, snowshoeing, biking, and the kids even did some lean-to building there during one of your environmental education program. We love the Minnehaha, the bridges and the changes in vegetation throughout.

Our other favorite is Woollam Family Nature Preserve. It's new to us and we've fallen quickly in love with the intense hike and it's beautiful reward. One day we swam for four straight hours there!

My favorite memory at a preserve was the first time we took all three kids mountain biking at Offield Family Working Forest Reserve. I was over the moon that we could participate in one of my favorite hobbies as a family.

We support LTC because, as a school secretary in Petoskey, I see firsthand the community involvement and dedication of the employees! I've learned things about birds from my children that I never knew, and they got their information from you guys! It takes a village and the Conservancy (the people and the properties) truly help to round out ours!

## NEW MEMBERS

*Thank you to the following individuals, families, and businesses that joined LTC as new members between May 18 - August 20, 2018.*

Dave and Jasmin Adams  
 Jean Beardsley Allen  
 Thomas Bailey and Heidi Marshall  
 Jack Thomas Camp  
 Mrs. Mary Jane Barnwell  
 Christopher and Christine Benson  
 Carlton E. and Patricia Bishop  
 BKC Insurance Services  
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## WISH LIST

- Small lawnmower
- Mini-van or larger capacity vehicle.



heart of the lakes  
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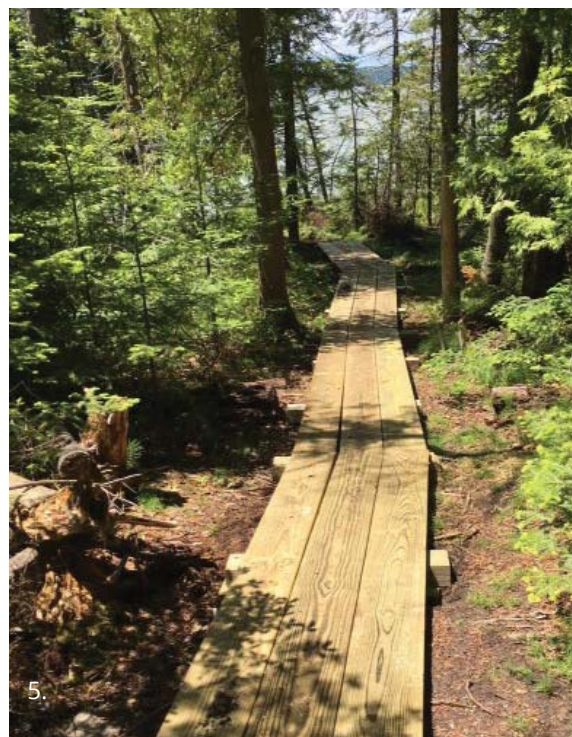
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 voice for  
 Michigan's land  
 conservancies*





## Summer Snapshots

1. Volunteers and staff hauling in new boardwalk at the Barbara C. Hoffius Nature Preserve/ Cheboygan County.
2. John and Andrew Scout pulling out barbed wire at the Wilson Working Forest Reserve near Harbor Springs.
3. Improved parking at the Maxwell Road entrance to the Emmet County McCune Nature Preserve.
4. New parking area at the Wilson Working Forest Reserve.
5. New boardwalk at the Seven Springs Preserve near Indian River.
6. Hauling in donated telephone poles to provide foundation for boardwalk at the Duncan Bay Preserve outside of Cheboygan.





1.



2.



## Dedicating New Preserves

1. Armistead Family Nature Preserve, Emmet County near Pickerel Lake
2. Sarah A. Martin Nature Preserve on Beaver Island
3. Elizabeth B. Hoffmann Nature Preserve in Charlevoix County along US-31



## Looking for Bats!

NEW MONITORING EQUIPMENT PURCHASED WITH GRANTS

by Ethan Jacobs, LTC Seasonal Employee

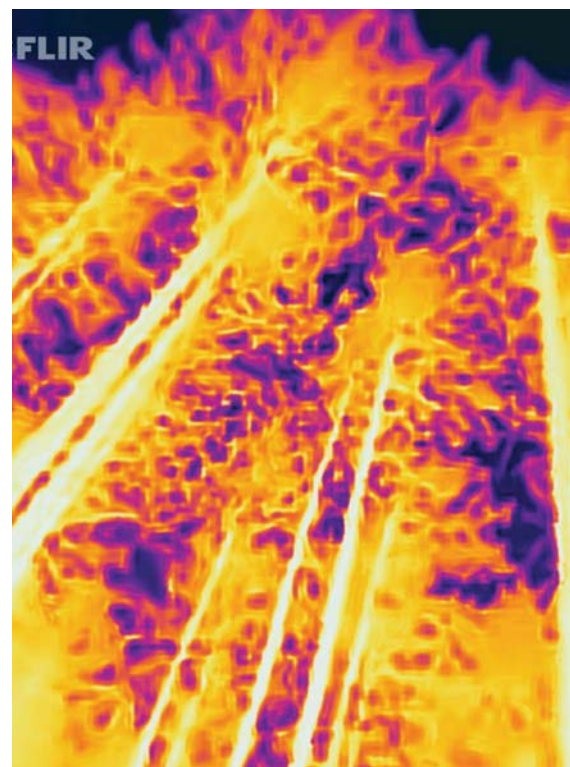
Little Traverse Conservancy recently acquired two pieces of equipment that can be used to monitor bat populations.\* These include the Echo Meter and the FLIR One. The Echo Meter is an acoustic recording system that is capable of picking up the different ultrasonic frequencies that bats emit, and the FLIR One is an infrared imaging device that will allow bats to be seen in tree cavities at night.

This summer, my fellow co-workers and I had the opportunity to test this equipment in the field. On July 24, we drove the length of Sugar Island at 20mph while the Echo Meter was recording bat echolocation calls. On our way, we passed the Chippewa 1, Chippewa 4, and Bill Marks Working Forest Reserves as well as the Bailey-Lagerstrom Preserve. Our second test was on August 13 at our Philip J. Braun Preserve in Pellston. During this excursion we conducted a walking transect by the river, through the woods, and along the road.

During both outings, we were able to document many of the bat species found in Michigan. This list included the Big Brown Bat/Silver-Haired Bat (same echolocation signal), Eastern Red Bat, Hoary Bat and Tricolored Bat. We were even able to document a Little Brown Bat at our Braun Preserve, one of the species hardest hit by white-nose syndrome, a fungal disease.

Bats are an integral part of Michigan ecosystems. They control insect populations and they provide food for other organisms either through predation or guano. In the summer, bats disperse to trees throughout northern Michigan and depend on intact forests to live and raise their young. Monitoring nearby populations will only further increase LTC's capacity to manage and protect the habitats around our area.

*\*The Little Traverse Conservancy received a \$2,987 grant from the Clarke Family Fund, Susan Irish Stewart Charitable Fund, Erickson Family Fund, and the Marana Webber Tost Charitable Fund at the Petoskey-Harbor Springs Area Community Foundation to acquire the acoustic monitoring equipment. The FLIR One was generously donated by Site Planning, Inc.*



Infrared image of trees.



# Thank You

Billy Wilson

The Lyric of Harbor Springs, McLean & Eakin Booksellers, Beaver Island Community Library, and Horizon Books of Traverse City for hosting book signings for The North Country Almanac.

Joe Vandermuelen for videotaping the annual meeting.

Tom Foster and the Hidden River Golf & Casting Club for allowing LTC kayak floats to start at the Club House.

Wil Cwikiel, Rita Palmer and the Beaver Island Community Schools for hosting the Sarah A. Martin Nature Preserve dedication.

Dave and Robyn Barrie for a hosting an LTC gathering in L'Arbre Croche.

Ceejay and Jack Heckenberg for hosting Friends and Benefactors.

Northwoods Area Narcotics Anonymous group for rebuilding the outhouse at the Andreae Preserve, and the Indian River Do It Center for discounted lumber for the project.

Tom and Cindy Themm for helping mow a small parking area at the Elizabeth B. Hoffmann Preserve.

Tim Moehr for cleaning up trash at Sugar Island Working Forests.

Mary Trout, Darrell Lawson and Ed Pike for conducting bird surveys at working forest reserves.

Nancy Cluley for help with database management and event preparation.

Friends of the Les Cheneaux Area Trails for trail maintenance at the Derby Nature Preserve.

Richard Jenkins for removing trash from the Consuelo Diane and Charles L. Wilson Jr. Working Forest Reserve.

Mike Tiedeck, Bill Kunst, Chris Ford, Jim Ehrnst, Tom Rowland, Jack Guirey and Richard Jenkins for helping build the Seven Springs Preserve boardwalk and overlook platform.

Glen Matthews for forest ecology consultation.

John Baker for building a stand for our Save the Trees paddleboard.

Mary and Don Trout, Bill and Carolyn Stark, Carrie Wiggins, Ann Fertuck, and Kenyon Stebbins for building the new trail at the Consuelo Diane and Charles L. Wilson Jr. Working Forest Reserve.

John Lehman for pulling invasive garlic mustard at the Raunecker Preserve.

U of M Biological Station for partnering with us at BioBlitz and for the Bioblitz foray leaders and registration volunteers: Amy Schrank, Karie Slavik, Dale Landes, Richard Jenkins, Darrell Lawson, Liana May, Glen Matthews, Brian Scholtens, Noah Jansen, Jack Guirey. Duke Elsner for letting us borrow an insect light trap for the BioBlitz.

Ed Pike for taking volunteer kestrel monitors on kestrel banding sessions at LTC preserves.

Crooked Tree Breadworks for donating pastries for our BioBlitz volunteers.

Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council for lending macro-invertebrate sampling equipment for the BioBlitz.

Consumers Energy for donating power poles for the Duncan Bay Nature

Preserve Bridge and helping carry them to the site.

Eldridge Family and Ben Musielak for removing beaver dams at Vermilion Point Nature Preserve.

City of Harbor Springs Electric for cutting trees around an interpretive sign.

Bob Dunn and John Griffin for a boat ride to Marquette Island.

Jack Guirey for volunteering on Fridays throughout the summer with the stewardship crew.

Tuesday Preserve Perfectionists for showing up each week without complaints in extreme heat, rain, bugs and mud!

Tom Darnton for a boat tour of Lake Charlevoix.

Charles Wilson for allowing us to teach students how to fly fish on his private protected property.

Diane Burke for monitoring the kestrel nest box on the Elizabeth B. Hoffmann Preserve.

Photographers who shared pictures with us: Sue Kurtz, Shelley Koteskey, Kelsey Becraft, and Darrell Lawson.

Fortune Bay Expedition Team for ecological inventory and trail work on St. Helena Island, and GLKKA volunteers for helping the team and LTC staff access and travel to the Island.

Christine Steensma from Oden State Fish Hatchery for loaning fishing equipment for the Knee High Fishing program

Mary Cummings and Beth Sylak from Harbor Springs Area Historical Society for gathering information for us to use on the Raunecker Preserve kiosk; Eric Hemenway for sharing cultural history for the Kiosk at Raunecker Preserve also.

U of M Grad Student Edie Juno for planting trees at Offield Working Forest Reserve as part of a forestry study.

Les Cheneaux Steering Committee for their feedback, support, and ideas.

Alec Sheets for removing trash at the Hoffmann Nature Preserve.

Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians Youth Conservation Corps and the Cheboygan Straits Area Youth Promotion Program volunteers for helping haul lumber at Duncan Bay Nature Preserve.

Charles Wilson for removing Barberry at the Wilson Working Forest Reserve.

John Baker for donating a chainsaw and chaps.

Trail mowing and clearing: Bill Henne at Driggers Preserve; Shane Albrecht and Bill Sanderson on Sugar Island; and Mike Mahn at the Loon Lake overlook platform at the Oliver and Edna Birge Nature Preserve.

Scout family Mary and sons John and Andrew for pulling barbed wire at Wilson Working Forest Reserve.

**To all of you for being patient with us as we transfer nearly 50 years of data to a new database!**



## It Takes a Village

### THIS YEAR'S SUMMER AND SEASONAL HELP

#### Sam Kruguer: Communications/Education Intern

Northern Michigan and Maine are the places that Sam calls home. Sam graduated most recently from a graduate certificate program in Environmental Education and Sustainability at Wolf Ridge Environmental Learning Center in northern Minnesota. Sam has a passion for exploratory and hands on learning in the outdoors as well as inspiring a sense of wonder in others to want to deeply know their ecological and social environment and to take action within their community. "Working at LTC has expanded



my skill set in both the realms of communication and education. I have absolutely loved getting to interact with the little ones in the Knee High Naturalist Program! They remind me of how beautiful and extraordinary our planet is. The people I work with are so positive and passionate about the work that they do that it inspires me to want to carry on the LTC mission of protecting land and fostering appreciation and understanding of the environment."

**Personal Quote:** "For most of us, knowledge of our world comes largely through sight, yet we look about with such unseeing eyes that we are partially blind. One way to open your eyes to unnoticed beauty is to ask yourself, 'What if I had never seen this before? What if I knew I would never see it again?'" — Rachel Carson

#### Ethan Jacobs: Stewardship Assistant

For Ethan, the woods of northern Michigan are home. Born and raised in Petoskey, Ethan graduated from Petoskey High School and received his associate's degree at North Central Michigan College. Ethan interned for LTC in fall 2017 and had volunteered since then in hopes of working as a stewardship assistant during the summer. What excites Ethan the most about the outdoors is the peacefulness it brings and the opportunities it provides for outdoor recreation such as



biking, hiking, and kayaking. Ethan is interested in working for a land conservancy. "This is one of the best jobs I've ever had! I look forward every Sunday to going to work on Monday." This fall, Ethan is attending Central Michigan University to earn his bachelor's in biology focused on natural resource management and is interested in minoring in outdoor education or environmental policy.

**Personal Quote:** "The greatest danger to our future is apathy." — Jane Goodall

#### Lorenzo Guel-Camp: Stewardship Intern

Lorenzo joined the LTC staff this summer from El Paso, Texas, and is currently attending Austin College, located north of Dallas. He is majoring in environmental studies, but also has interests in economics, history, anthropology, and nature photography. Lorenzo has always been surrounded by nature and one of his earliest childhood memories was his first hike at the age of two in Hueco Tanks State Park. The people that Lorenzo grew up with had a deep love for the environment including both his family and friends in the U.S. and Mexico, and adoptive grandparents of Jemez-Pueblo, native to New Mexico. "The forest is my church. Being in the outdoors makes you live in the moment and engages all of your senses." It is the temperate forests and the water that drew Lorenzo to northern Michigan. Lorenzo plans on searching for opportunities to work at a land conservancy in Texas or any other state.



**Personal quote:** "Forgive me my nonsense, as I also forgive the nonsense of those that think they talk sense." — Robert Frost

#### Philip Weldy: Stewardship Assistant

Philip hails from Mishawaka, Indiana, and has a bachelor's degree in environmental biology and ecology. Prior to being a stewardship assistant at LTC, Philip was an Americorps member for the National Parks Service out east doing trail maintenance. He wanted to further the experience he had there and so found himself at LTC this summer.

Philip loves discovering new things about the natural world and finds it fascinating that while things are always changing in the environment there is a rhythm to the change. Philip believes, "The more you are outside the more you appreciate it." He will stay on staff into the fall managing invasive honeysuckle at several LTC preserves. "Being at LTC has reaffirmed what I love to do. This work allows me to be active and there is always something new!"



**Personal Quote:** "Life is like riding a bicycle. To keep your balance you must keep moving forward." — Walter Isaacson



# FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

*Kieran Fleming*

ONE OF THE FIRST THINGS WE DID AFTER TOM BAILEY'S retirement in August was to send out an introductory letter to you, our members. I had one of those "this is a big deal" moments when Howard from The Print Shop was pushing a dolly loaded with the boxes of letters up the walkway. You have probably seen one of those window stickers on cars that say some variation of "precious cargo on board." Well, I wanted to run out the door and slap one of those on Howard's dolly. The importance of our members had a more poignant meaning to me at that moment than ever before. All 4,000 (give or take a few) of our members like you were represented in those boxes of letters. You make a decision every year to support the Conservancy or to direct your generosity elsewhere. And every year, enough of you continue your support of our mission, many at a higher level than the year before. I have a full appreciation of just how important you are to what we accomplish.

Your annual membership contribution certainly keeps the lights on, pays the bills so to speak, but it does so much more. Our members are testimony that our communities value wild places, clean water, abundant wildlife, outdoor recreation, and scenic northern Michigan farms and forests. Our members are testimony that providing outdoor education opportunities for our children of all ages is important, especially to this digital generation. And our members are willing to band together with our staff, board, and volunteers to invest in these things with money, talent, and time.

Our members represent a broad spectrum of backgrounds and political ideologies yet, when it comes to conserving what we value about living in northern Michigan, we are able to stand together to make it happen. That inspires me and fills me with gratitude.

The minimum gift requirement to become a member at the Conservancy is one dollar. The point is that we don't want to exclude anyone by virtue of their inability to make a large gift. We would rather count our supporters by our shared interest rather than the size of their wallets.

This is important because we are formulating plans to accomplish big things in the next five years here at LTC. We are going to move our mission of land conservation, stewardship, and environmental education forward at an accelerated rate and with enthusiasm. Nested in our plans is the goal of increasing our number of members because without you, we cannot move forward. With more of you, we not only move forward but we do so with the confidence that we are representing our community and reflecting its values when it comes to conserving our land, educating our youth, caring for the gift that is this part of our beautiful state.

Thanks to all of you who received the letter and reached out to offer congratulations, support, and encouragement. This gives our team confidence that our future direction has backing. Our staff are among the finest professionals you can find. Our board is dedicated and diverse, and our hundreds of volunteers are ever on duty. With your help, there is no limit to where we will go.



Marco Verch



# The LTC Team!

**The 3,900 individuals, families, businesses, and foundations who are current members.**

**The 383 volunteers who donate thousands of hours.**

## Board of Trustees

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Joe Kimmell, Vice Chair  
Ian R.N. Bund, Treasurer  
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## Standing Committee Chairs

**Land Protection:** Mary Faculak

**Stewardship:** John Baker

**Education:** Dale Lewis

**Nominating:** Marta Olson

**Investment:** Ian Bund

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Mike Lynch, Preserve Stewardship  
Ethan Jacobs, Seasonal  
Phillip Weldy, Seasonal  
Lorenzo Guel-Camp, Austin College Intern

Little Traverse Conservancy, Inc.  
3264 Powell Road  
Harbor Springs, MI 49740-9469  
231.347.0991  
[www.landtrust.org](http://www.landtrust.org)

Address Service Requested

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
Petoskey, MI  
Permit No. 110

## Fall Community Field Trips

*Pre-registration is requested by calling 231.347.0991 or online at [www.landtrust.org](http://www.landtrust.org).*

### Mushrooming with Marilynn

**Sunday, September 30 1-3pm**

#### Greenwood Foundation, Wolverine

A mushroom hike with local mycologist Marilynn Smith is a special treat! Be amazed by her vast knowledge of all things fungal as you wander the autumn woods. PROGRAM IS WEATHER DEPENDENT. Group size is limited.

### Amazing Autumn with Knee High Naturalists (ages 3-5)

**Saturday, October 6 & 20 10-11am**

#### Round Lake Preserve, Harbor Springs

Explore the colors and patterns that make this time of the year so special. We will use our observation skills to take a closer look at leaves and discover how trees grow. Through stories, songs, and fun activities we will get to experience the magical season of fall. Adults must accompany child. Meet in the Little Traverse Conservancy office parking area.

### Fall Kayak along the Maple River

**Wednesday, October 10 4-6pm**

#### Brutus, Emmet County

Enjoy a fall paddling trip down the twists and turns of the serene Maple River amidst October's colors. LTC staff will discuss ongoing land conservation efforts in this pristine riverine habitat, and the float will be about 1½ hours on the water. The float is for confident kayakers with basic self-rescue experience. Paddlers must provide their own kayak, paddle and PFD. Kayak rentals are available through Ryde Marine of Alanson, The Outfitter in Harbor Springs, or BrassWind Landing in Indian River. Group size is limited.

### What Does A Tree Mean?

**Saturday, October 13 10am-Noon**

#### Consuelo Diane & Charles L. Wilson Jr. Working Forest Reserve, Harbor Springs

Learn how trees have served multiple roles for the Odawa over time. From transportation to housing to religious needs, trees have always been and continue to be a cornerstone of the Odawa culture.

### Amazing Autumn with Knee High Naturalists (ages 3-5)

**Saturday, October 20** (see description for October 6 program)

### Birding Around Little Traverse Bay, with Darrell Lawson

**Saturday, Oct. 20 8:45am**

#### East Park, Bay Harbor

Join Petoskey Audubon President Darrell Lawson, and Little Traverse Conservancy staff as we caravan our way around Little Traverse Bay in search of migrating birds! Starting in Harbor Springs and ending at East Park in Bay Harbor (see full program description online at [www.landtrust.org](http://www.landtrust.org)).

*The mission of the Little Traverse Conservancy is to protect the natural diversity and beauty of northern Michigan by preserving significant land and scenic areas, and fostering appreciation and understanding of the environment.*